

New neighbors for Knoller
Figure in dog maul case moved
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And then there were four
One LGBT candidate with-
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True grit
Rediscovering the 'Maverick Eye'
of photographer John Deakin.
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

City mourns loss of gay political consultant Robert Barnes

by Matthew S. Bajko

Three months before he would have once again made political history in helping to elect the state's first openly gay assemblyman, Robert Barnes died due to AIDS-related complications, two weeks shy of his 43rd birthday.



Robert Barnes

Mr. Barnes died Friday, August 9 at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco after a seven-week battle with Guillain-Barre syndrome, a neurological disease similar to multiple sclerosis. In honor of the fifth-generation San Franciscan, Mayor Willie Brown ordered city flags to be flown at half-mast. The rainbow flag at Harvey Milk Plaza in the Castro was also lowered last weekend in Mr. Barnes's honor.

"It was a complete shock to everyone at the office and we are all deeply saddened," said friend and business partner John Whitehurst.

Mr. Barnes, a co-founder of the political consulting firm of Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauter and Partners, helped to elect more gay and lesbian candidates to office than any other political consultant in California. His latest triumph was helping Mark Leno win the March primary against Harry Britt for the Democratic nomination for the 13th Assembly District seat being vacated by Carole Migden, who was termed out of office. Due to the district's heavy Democratic registration, Leno is expected to win in November.

"He had an uncommonly original and brilliant political mind, an endlessly generous spirit, and profound pride of his community and his hometown of San Francisco," said Leno. "It is overwhelming how much will not get done, or will not get done as well, in Robert's absence. But it is our task to carry on, of course. He will be greatly missed."

Leno's victory in March was a moment Mr. Barnes had spent his life working toward, albeit from behind the scenes. Friends and colleagues said that election was a crowning achievement for him.

"There was a time during the Mark Leno campaign for the primary, at the end of a very long day, where Robert was sitting on the ground with his legs crossed and I was talking to him. He looked up at me and said, 'We have to elect Mark Leno,'" recalled Paul Hogan, co-chair of the

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Giants help in AIDS fight

Volunteers from local AIDS organizations mingled on the field with players from the San Francisco Giants as red balloons were released during the pregame ceremony at the ninth annual "Until There's A Cure Day" Sunday, August 11 at Pacific Bell Park. Jeff Cleary, executive director of the Until There's A Cure Foundation, said that the agency handed out \$50,000 to three groups: UCSF's AIDS Research Institute, the New Conservatory Theatre Center, and Project Open Hand. More money will be distributed once final figures have been calculated, he added. The Giants beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-4 in 11 innings.

Condom conundrum

Guys say they use them, yet STD and HIV rates continue to rise in San Francisco

by Matthew S. Bajko

This month the Stop AIDS Project handed out its 4 millionth condom for the year. Other San Francisco AIDS agencies distribute thousands of condoms every month.

And HIV prevention officials say surveys show most men who have sex with men say they use, or intend to use, condoms.

"In my activities on the streets, I find very few — maybe 10 or 20 percent — of the people don't use condoms. But those folks tend to engage in the most risky behavior," said Andre Robertson, director of prevention at the Black Coalition on AIDS.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is commonly believed that "prior to the [AIDS] epidemic, virtually no American gay men used condoms. By 1992, 70 percent of at-risk gay men reported consistent condom use."

Even 10 years later, the percentage of men who say they use condoms remains high. The Black Coalition on AIDS has found that 80 percent of the people interviewed during its risk reduction counseling say they use condoms all the time.

Of the 2,525 men surveyed last fiscal year by the Stop AIDS Project, 81 percent said they intended to use condoms in the next six months for anal sex. And the Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center reports similar findings.

"Typically most people are using them most of the time or all the time," said Dredge Kang, the agency's program manager.

Yet if so many condoms are being handed out — and supposedly used — why do rates of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV continue to rise among the city's gay men? It is a question health officials are trying to answer



Condoms and lube are available in several parks.

in their ongoing battle to combat the AIDS epidemic.

"There is always that discrepancy between what people say they do and what they actually do," said Robertson of the high survey results on condom usage.

More important than questions about the surveys' accuracy is reaching the 20 percent of

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Ammiano unveils homeless plan

by Zak Szymanski

Wednesday, August 7 was a significant day for anyone concerned about homelessness in San Francisco, as Board of Supervisors

President Tom Ammiano submitted his own ballot measure to tackle the problem.

Dubbed as an alternative to Supervisor Gavin Newsom's Care Not Cash initiative, Ammiano's measure does not specify cash cuts to the homeless as Newsom's does, despite previous speculation that his version would. And his measure, he said, does not necessarily compete with Newsom's in that it simply provides for more services to be offered and addresses some perceived shortcomings with Newsom's measure should voters pass it in November. Recent polls have indicated a nearly 75 percent voter approval rating for Care Not Cash, which would affect one-third of the city's welfare recipients and cut their cash grants from over \$300 to just \$59 a month.

"My measure provides some very significant solutions. It will provide real housing, it will provide services for the mentally ill, and it will provide services for drug and alcohol rehab," Ammiano told the Bay Area Reporter. "If [Newsom's] measure passes, this measure will complement it, and if the other measure doesn't pass, this measure will stand on its own."

Ammiano has announced he's running for mayor in 2003; Newsom, who is up for re-election this year on the board, is also expected to run for mayor next year.

Called "Exits from Homelessness," Ammiano's ballot measure commits the city to 1,000 units of housing and 700 units of drug treatment. Half of the housing would be supportive licensed care facilities to treat the mentally ill, and of the treatment slots, 75 must be linked to residential programs. The additional services, with an estimated price tag of \$13 million, would be phased in gradually. The measure also calls for the state of California to take more responsibility for the treatment of the mentally ill.

The latter part of Ammiano's measure addresses cash cuts should Newsom's measure pass, and puts conditions both on how long a person can be housed in a shelter over real housing as well as which populations should be exempt from cuts to their welfare checks. Under Ammiano's plan, seniors would not have to endure Newsom's proposed cash cuts, nor would pregnant women or families.

"People receiving county assistance should not be painted with a broad brush. Seniors, pregnant women, and families

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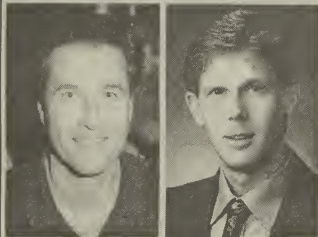
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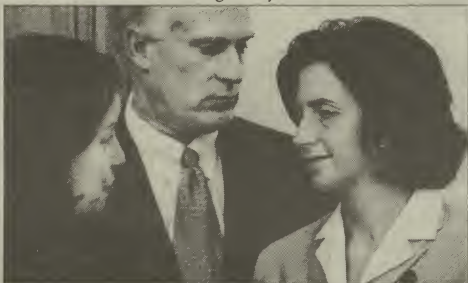
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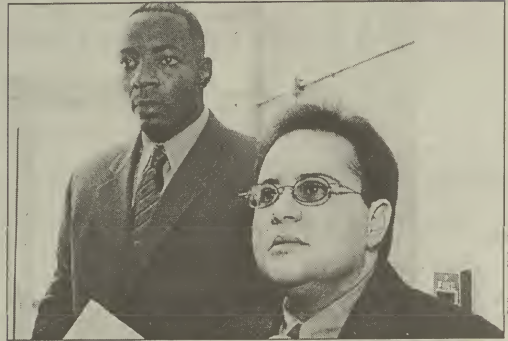
by Zak Szymanski

San Francisco's police and sheriff's departments were officially served with a \$25 million lawsuit on behalf of a transgender man who says he was physically and mentally abused during his arrest and jailing last year.

As previously reported in the *Bay Area Reporter*, Jeremy Burke, 37, filed the suit in San Francisco Superior Court on May 21 based on a series of events that led to his arrest on August 13, 2001.

Burke and his attorney, Waukeen McCoy, held a news conference last Thursday, August 8, announcing that they had served the lawsuit to city officials that morning. At press time, the city attorney's office had no comment.

According to Burke and McCoy, Burke was visiting his partner's apartment at 350 Ellis Street when he was refused entry after producing his identification for a security guard. Burke then reportedly told the guard that he



Attorney Waukeen McCoy, left, and his client, Jeremy Burke.

was a frequent visitor, and that his lover was ill with congestive heart failure and could not come down to get him. As Burke attempted to enter the elevator, the lawsuit states, the security guard pushed and shoved him, and the two rode up to the second floor together where Burke's partner assured the guard that everything was okay.

Approximately 15 minutes later, after the security guard had already left, the suit alleges that San Francisco police officers knocked on the apartment door, dragged Burke out of a chair, punched him in the face and chest, and slammed his head into the floor several times. Burke was

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Dog gone ruling in PWA eviction case

by Zak Szymanski

A federal judge has ruled against a PWA's claim that he should be allowed to keep a pit bull as an emotional support animal in his San Francisco apartment.

Guy Lowe, 38, rescued his dog Sophie from an animal shelter last November on the advice, and with the written recommendation, from his doctor. Having Sophie, said Lowe, ensures that he gets out of bed and leads a productive life despite his disabling HIV-related illnesses. Lowe received an AIDS diagnosis in 1992 and has been on disability leave from work since 1997.

Lowe has lived in his Hayes Valley apartment for seven years, which is in a no-pets building. Although federal and state laws allow for disabled tenants in no-pets buildings to have animals for companionship, his landlord took exception to Sophie's breed, and took Lowe to court to evict the dog.

When the *Bay Area Reporter* first reported on Lowe's case in

April, AIDS Legal Referral Panel attorney Jason Stein said that laws pertaining to companion animals do not permit landlords to exempt a dog based on perceptions about a particular breed.

"It has to be specific problems with that animal," Stein told the *B.A.R.*

But on Wednesday, August 7, U.S. District Court Judge William Alsup disagreed with that interpretation, stating that Lowe was "unreasonable" to have chosen a pit bull, and that Lowe's landlord more than satisfied disability laws when he offered Lowe the chance to replace Sophie with a breed of "a gentler reputation."

Lowe was armed in court with expert opinions from a veterinarian who conducted an evaluation that concluded Sophie was the safest of thousands of dog he had tested, and from Bay Area Doglovers Responsible About Pit-bulls, which also confirmed Sophie's good disposition. But Alsup ruled on the side of caution, and cited other expert testimony that pit bulls were among the most violent dogs in the country.

"We got a judge that was super prejudiced about pit bulls," Lowe told the *B.A.R.* on Monday, August 12. "She's such a good dog, but people are just really paranoid about everything right now."

California has been home to several recent vicious dog attacks, the most infamous incident occurring in a San Francisco apartment building when Diane Whipple was mauled to death by two Presa Canario dogs in January 2001. That case resulted in a murder and manslaughter conviction for the dogs' caretakers (the murder conviction against defendant Marjorie Knoller, who was with the dogs at the time of the attack, has since been overturned).

Lowe, who was ordered to remove Sophie from the apartment by September 9, said he is still exploring possibilities for an appeal, but for now will look for another place to live with his dog.

"An appeal at this point would take months," said Lowe. "Rather than risking losing Sophie, I'm going to find a new place to live first. I'm actually about to go to see an apartment today." ▼

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Feds come to SF, meet with AIDS agency

by Matthew S. Bajko

After meeting with a team from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this week, the Stop AIDS Project called on the federal government to improve how it evaluates HIV prevention programs.

"I think a couple of things became clear during the meeting. There is a real lack of well-funded research science about prevention," said Shana Krochmal, the agency's spokeswoman. "Who has the burden of proof? Whose job is it to demonstrate that prevention works? We are a community agency, that is not the work that we do."

On Monday, August 12 four investigators from the CDC met with staff of the San Francisco AIDS agency to examine if its programs were "scientifically sound." The meeting stemmed from criticism by conservative congressmen and AIDS activists that the agency's programs are ineffective and its prevention materials are in violation of federal guidelines because they promote sexual activity.

After the meeting, Krochmal told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the government needs to fund research that will evaluate various HIV intervention strategies and their impact on changing the community's sexual behavior.

"I felt like we had a very good

conversation about the fact that some of that research just isn't there. Not that the results have been bad, it is just not there," she said. "We haven't fully funded organizations at the university research level to really dig into what prevention works and what accompanying changes in seroconversion rates are an effect of that."

Newly appointed CDC director Dr. Julie Gerberding, who is on leave as a professor at the University of California, San Francisco,

and as "obscene."

However, the agency has maintained that it designs its workshops and interventions using the CDC's own guidelines and the workshops are approved by a local review process.

"We have been continuously funded by the CDC since 1992. We have received nothing but the highest evaluations from them throughout that entire time period," said Krochmal. "Most of our programs are based on their own

"This is really about pushing a religious belief as opposed to taking care of public health."

informed the agency at the beginning of August that she was sending a CDC team to assess the agency's programs. The team is expected to release a written report of its examination of the agency's materials and programs within 10 days of its visit.

The visit was the second time in a year federal investigators met with Stop AIDS Project staff. Last fall Janet Rehnquist, inspector general of the Department of Health and Human Services, concluded that some of the information presented in the agency's workshops could be construed as "encouraging ... sexual activity"

models of effective prevention."

Local AIDS researchers have criticized the investigations of the agency's work as being politically motivated and damaging to the public's health.

"This is really about pushing a religious belief as opposed to taking care of public health," said Dr. Thomas Coates, director of UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. "The impact that has is a huge dampening effect on agencies that are responsible for prevention. They all feel the need to hunker down under the radar. Who could be creative under those circumstances?" ▼



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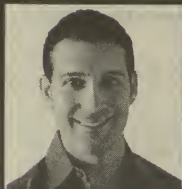


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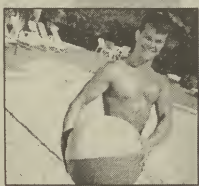


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Knoller assigned to new prison

by Ed Walsh

California's toughest women prisoners will be among Marjorie Knoller's new neighbors.

Last Friday, August 9, Knoller was moved to the Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla where she'll serve time until she's eligible for parole in about a year. CCWF is home to the state's death row for women and houses just over 3,000 inmates, or about a third of California's total female prison population. Knoller was assigned to the D-Yard and is part of the general prison population, according to Department of Corrections spokeswoman Margot Bach.

As part of the general population, Knoller will mix with high security inmates many of whom were convicted of violent crimes, including murder, and lower security prisoners who are in for mostly nonviolent drug-related crimes. Bach explained that although male inmates are segregated according to criminal history, women are not. The spokeswoman said that because violence is uncommon in the state's female prisons.

In March, Knoller, 47, was convicted along with her husband, Robert Noel, 61, of involuntary manslaughter and keeping a mischievous animal that killed a person. Knoller was also convicted of second-degree murder but that conviction was later overturned by a judge. Noel and Knoller were the caretakers of the two dogs that mauled their neighbor, Diane Whipple, to death in the hallway of their Pacific Heights apartment building on January 26, 2001.

Knoller was shipped off to state prison just after she was sentenced on July 15. She was being temporarily housed at the Valley State Prison for Women in Chowchilla

before being permanently assigned across the street, to the CCWF.

Noel is currently being held in the Deuel Vocational Institution in Tracy. Corrections officials plan to meet this week to come up with a recommendation of where to house Noel for the remainder of his term. Like his wife, Noel has about another year to serve before being eligible for parole. The final decision of a permanent prison for him is expected to be made by early September, if not sooner, said Bach.

It's possible Noel could be sent to a prison outside California.

"Out of state is something that is being discussed but it requires my agreement," wrote Noel in correspondence with the *Bay Area Reporter*.

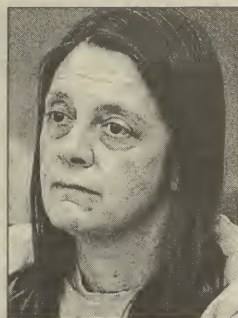
Although an inmate can be assigned to any prison within the state, the prisoner must give consent to be sent out of state, according to the Department of Corrections.

As an attorney, Noel represented both guards and inmates in California prisons. That will be one of the major considerations that will go into the decision of where to place him.

"Corrections is a small world," wrote Noel. "COs [correctional officers] here are friends and/or relatives of cops we have represented. Prisoners (some) that I have encountered are acquaintances of or former cellmates of a number of inmate witnesses in our cases."

Noel said one of the toughest parts of DVI is the scorching heat both indoors and in the prison yard. The only way he has been able to get any relief from the 100-plus temperatures, he wrote, was to sponge himself with cold water.

Although he no doubt misses San Francisco's air-conditioned jail, he doesn't miss the food there. "The food [at DVI] is excellent



Marjorie Knoller

— Denny's quality — looks good, tastes great," Noel wrote.

Noel said he remains locked in his cell most of the time, only being allowed in the prison yard three times a week for an hour and a half each time. He said he is able to talk with the inmates in the cells next to his, and with the exception of "one or two jerks," the other inmates are relatively well behaved. He wrote that he spends most of his time reading and working on his appeal.

In his correspondence, Noel strongly rebuked an item in a *Matier & Ross* column in the *San Francisco Chronicle* that said San Francisco jail employees were glad to get rid of him.

"The comment, 'he's finally out of here,' suggests an antagonism that has no basis in fact other than the speaker's personal prejudices and ignorance," he wrote.

Noel pointed out that in the year he was in custody in the San Francisco jail he remained discipline free, got along well with the other inmates, kept his cell to "U.S. Marine Corps standards," and regularly devoted time to cleaning up the common areas of his jail pod.

Noel had the same high opinion of the staff at DVI as he had of San Francisco jail employees, calling them "decent, hard-working, and honest." ▼

Duffy seeks volunteers for homeless effort

by Cynthia Laird

District 8 supervisor candidate Bevan Duffy is seeking volunteers to help provide neighborhood-based outreach to homeless people in the area.

Duffy said most of his outreach team's efforts will be concentrated in the Castro, which is part of District 8.

"To the extent my campaign can be a catalyst to encourage at-risk individuals to shelter or transitional housing, drug treatment, or other services, I want to make that happen," he said.

Interested people can attend a

meeting next Thursday, August 22, at 6 p.m. at Duffy's campaign headquarters, 2344 Market Street.

Helping Duffy to lead this effort are two experienced individuals, Millie Valdes and Hunter Mills. Valdes served as manager of citizen's assistance in the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services — which Duffy used to run — until her retirement last year. Mills was one of the city's first homeless outreach workers during the early 1990s and has also done HIV work with Shanti. The two will work with volunteers to train them on available city services before volunteers start working with

the homeless.

Duffy, who supports the Care Not Cash initiative on the November ballot, said he hopes the volunteers can "make a difference in people's lives."

Care Not Cash dramatically cuts monthly general assistance checks from \$395 to \$59 and uses the difference to fund city services for the homeless.

"Anyone living in District 8, especially the Castro, recognizes that the homeless situation has become overwhelming," Duffy added.

For more information, call (415) 355-9888 or e-mail info@bevanduffy.com. ▼

Congress considers prison rape bill

by Liz Highleyman

After years of neglect, lawmakers are finally taking steps to address the widespread problem of sexual assault in prison.

Last month Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) and Senator Jeffrey Sessions (R-Alabama) introduced the Prison Rape Reduction Act of 2002. A parallel

bill in the House is being sponsored by Representative Bobby Scott (D-Virginia) and Representative Frank Wolf (R-Virginia). The legislation requires the Department of Justice to collect annual statistics on the frequency of prison rape and establish a panel to conduct inquiries of prison systems that exhibit particularly high rates. In addition, the bills provide for training of state and local prison staff in preventing, investi-

gating, and punishing prison rape.

Speaking at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on July 31, Kennedy said that rape led to "devastating" effects on victims and "serious consequences for communities" to which prisoners return. He said prison officials often fail to take steps to protect inmates from sexual assault.

The committee heard testimony from several experts, including

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HMI, City College start fall classes at community center

by Joe Dignan

Both the Harvey Milk Institute and City College of San Francisco are starting up classes this week at the LGBT Community Center – with an emphasis on queer culture and society.

Mark Menke, program director for HMI, said, "They're fun, quirky queer classes you may have wished your college offered but didn't."

"I couldn't imagine the Catholic college I went to offering a class like 'Catching the Clergy with their Pants Down,'" which is one of the HMI's fall offerings, Menke said. The instructor for that class, Larry Goldsmith, said that the current scandals in the Catholic Church are just the latest examples of a phenomenon dating back to the Mayflower, and that the class will put them in historical perspective.

Other HMI offerings (there are 65 at the center) will range from

"Wigs 101" with Kennedy to "Perspective Drawing for Absolute Beginners" to "Writing and Performing Standup Comedy" to "Pin Hole Photography" to "Porn Writing for Queer Boys and Girls." But, Menke said, the most popular classes are in photography and sewing.

Mary Sue Wantorek teaches the sewing classes. When she offered her "Beginning Sewing" this spring, the class had six women and three men. At the last meeting, the students were finishing up their final projects, pillows, which, Wantorek said, use lots of the techniques the students learn during the five-week class.

City College is offering 13 classes at the center. Some are in traditional subjects like spreadsheets, how to run a small business, and reading and composition. Others are in not too traditional, but useful, subjects like animation for multimedia, which will teach you how to make your Web site dance and sing.

But the college's dean, Bruce

Smith, said that some of the college's LGBT studies classes will be held at the center too.

Queer TV (BCST 106) is new this year, Smith said. "It's about the way gays and lesbians have and are being portrayed on television."

Lesbian and Gay Culture and Society (GLST 10) will be an overview of gay and lesbian studies. According to Smith, it will be about "how we got where we are and how do we get where we want to go."

"These classes are also a great way to meet people too," said HMI's Menke. ▼

For more information on HMI classes, go to www.harveymilk.org or call (415) 865-5633. For information on City College classes, go to www.ccsf.edu or call (415) 239-3127. The center is at 1800 Market Street.

Correction

In the August 8 article "State equal benefits bill in trouble," readers could have inferred that state Senators John Burton (D-San Francisco) and Dede Alpert (D-San Diego) oppose AB1080, the bill by Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe (D-Coronado) that would require contractors doing business with California to offer the same benefits to domestic partners as they do to spouses. In fact, both Burton and Alpert support the bill and the California Alliance for Pride and Equality urged members of the LGBT community to call the two lawmakers in a show of support for the measure. We regret any confusion.



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OPEN FORUM

Back to school

With students getting ready to head back to school in the next few weeks, Tuesday's groundbreaking settlement in an anti-gay case between the Gay-Straight Alliance Network and the Visalia Unified School District sends a powerful message to school districts not only in the rest of California, but across the country.

The Visalia school district, in California's Central Valley, agreed to sweeping measures to train staff and students with the goal of preventing anti-gay harassment before it happens. The settlement ends a federal lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union in which the Gay-Straight Alliance Network was the lead plaintiff. The ACLU filed the suit over routine harassment of lesbian and gay students, some of whom were then forced into a special program for students with behavioral problems.

The settlement requires mandatory training for all staff and all high school students. The training will be aimed at teaching staff how to intervene and remedy acts of harassment and how to prevent them. Student training, designed by the Gay-Straight Alliance Network, will be conducted "peer to peer" by other students and will eventually be made part of the permanent curriculum.

Additionally, the settlement requires the district to adopt policies explicitly forbidding staff or student harassment or discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation; to establish a community advisory group to help address discrimination; and to name "compliance counselors" to help parents, students, and teachers with incidents of discrimination.

"This milestone settlement shows schools how to meet their legal obligations to not only respond to anti-gay harassment, but to actively work to prevent it," said ACLU attorney Ann Brick. "Anti-gay harassment is a particularly big problem in schools outside of major urban centers, like those in Visalia. Students there will now have a shot at being treated equally, and the rest of California and the nation will have a strong model for addressing these issues."

And that's the point. According to the

Gay-Straight Alliance Network, students in the city of Loomis and others in Visalia district schools reported a climate of pervasive hostility, including teachers and other staff making anti-gay slurs and statements to students; students harassing, spitting at, throwing objects at, sexually harassing, and attacking other students; and administrators refusing to respond to complaints or isolating students who complained and encouraging them to leave school and enter independent study, a program that limits students' future academic options.

We know these problems aren't limited to one school district and we know the issues that LGBT students face in school. Young people struggling to come out while in school face enormous pressure, not only

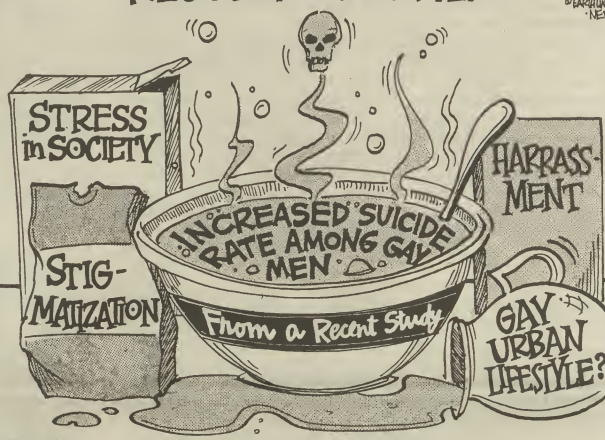
from their peers and teachers, but from their families as well. Many young LGBT people leave home for cities like San Francisco, and we know queer youth here often face challenges with respect to housing, employment, and completing their education.

The Visalia settlement shows what can be accomplished to promote tolerance in public schools — even if those schools are outside of urban centers like San Francisco. Administrators, teachers, and, most importantly, school board members who oversee districts would do well to realize that they will be held accountable for anti-gay harassment that occurs in their schools. Students attending public schools are entitled to an educational experience free of anti-gay discrimination, and this settlement is a major step in the right direction. ▼



Editorial

RECIPE for DISASTER?



HOPE is risky and unfair

by Steve Collier

In November, San Franciscans will vote on Proposition R, a risky and unfair measure to drastically increase the number of condominium conversions. Euphemistically called "HOPE," Proposition R will result in large-scale evictions of long-term tenants and rampant real estate speculation. Jeff Sheehy wrote in last week's Bay Area Reporter that Proposition R will result in home ownership opportunities for LGBT renters. Proposition R does nothing to promote home ownership, and similar measures in the past failed to produce any substantial increase in tenant ownership.

San Francisco currently limits condominium conversions to 400 units per year in buildings of six units or less, and where a majority of the building's tenants agree to purchase their units. Proposition R will increase the limit to 3,400 conversions per year in buildings of any size. That's 85,000 units over 25 years! In most cases only 25 percent of the tenants need agree to purchase their units.

The median price of a condominium in San Francisco ranges from \$449,000 to \$500,000. Few renters can afford a condo. Proposition R has no provisions for affordable home ownership or any controls on the price that can be charged to purchasing tenants. Our condo conversion law in the late 1970s had provisions similar to Proposition R and resulted in only 11 percent of tenants purchasing converted apartments. Under a similar measure enacted in Santa Monica, tenants purchased only 8 percent of converted apartments over 12 years.

Recent increases in the market for tenancies-in-common did not result in TICs becoming more affordable. Most renters could not afford to buy a TIC. Like TICs, increasing the number of condos will not re-

duce their price.

Sheehy argues that tenants can afford to purchase their units because the price they will pay will be the cost of a rental apartment, not a condo. You just buy your building, divide the cost among the purchasing tenants, and presto! Your apartment is yours for a mere \$156,000.

The problem with Sheehy's analysis is that he is comparing apples and oranges. Under Proposition R, tenants will have to purchase a condominium, not an apartment. Sales of apartments cannot occur until the building is subdivided into condos. The basic rule of real estate is that upon subdivision, the price of each unit goes up. That is why condominiums sell at a higher price per unit than apartment buildings. Proposition R does nothing to change this basic principle.

Now Sheehy may find some generous landlord who will subdivide his building and instead of capturing the increase in value from the subdivision process, sell his unit for the same value as if it was never subdivided. But most landlords are not in the business for charity. They will sell at what the market will bear, and that is on average \$500,000 per unit.

Proposition R will result in a massive loss of rent-controlled housing. The conversion and sale of condominiums creates a permanent exemption from rent control under California's Costa-Hawkins Act. Although Proposition R requires that non-purchasing tenants be given a lifetime lease, these leases may be preempted under Costa-Hawkins. Most tenants don't live in the same apartment their entire life. If they move out for a job transfer, a new relationship, or to have a family, the unit becomes forever exempt from rent control. The new tenant will pay market rent and unlimited rent increases

thereafter. Few gays could afford to move here. Tenants in converted units could not arbitrate disputes before the Rent Board or remedy decreases in services. Illegally evicted tenants could not sue for wrongful eviction.

Sheehy also argues that owners who Ellis Act their buildings cannot convert to condos under Proposition R. However a San Francisco judge recently ruled that our condo law couldn't exclude owners who invoke the Ellis Act from converting, the very thing Proposition R claims to do. Landlords who invoke the Ellis Act could evict their tenants and convert buildings to condominiums without limitation.

Proposition R is unfair and undemocratic because it allows as few as 25 percent of the tenants

in a building to decide whether to convert to condominiums and gain exemption from Rent Control. It does not even require that 25 percent of the tenants actually buy their units, only that they promise to buy. It does not ensure that units are in fact sold to tenants instead of the general public. Owners may discriminate in pricing units for sale, offering one tenant a better deal than another. Conversions would be exempt from planning and affordable housing laws.

Although home sales are typically contingent on approval of loan terms and inspections, Proposition R requires that all sales be non-contingent. A purchasing tenant who cannot obtain financing, or learns that the building has structural problems, could not get out of the sale.

Don't be fooled. Vote no on Proposition R in November. It's too risky. ▼

Steve Collier is a gay activist and a staff attorney at the Tenderloin Housing Clinic.

LETTERS

Questions candidate

In your article on Bevan Dufty's run for the Board of Supervisors ["Waiting years to run, Dufty kicks off supe bid," August 8], he states, "I want people to judge me on what I do." That is fair. I assume he also means what he has done. He opposed Proposition D; the initiative that threw out Mayor Brown's corrupt cronies from the Planning and the Permit Appeals commissions. As head of Mayor Brown's Neighborhood Services Department, he has nothing to be proud of. I am a Castro resident and I can testify to the decline in services and response from the mayor's office over the last few years as can any resident in areas not favored by Mayor Brown. And look who shows up at his kick-off: Supervisors Leland Yee and Tony Hall, the two most far-right supes on the board. I don't think that represents this district and I know we do not need another Willie Brown rubber-stamp supervisor. We just got rid of those in the last election.

Derek Glass
San Francisco

Worthless initiative

Shame on Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano for coming up with a worthless initiative to compete with the well thought out and researched Care Not Cash initiative, created by Supervisor Gavin Newsom and placed on the November ballot through a signature campaign.

Ammiano is only trying to confuse the voters in order to continue his agenda for an increased homeless population, which will in turn secure more funding for his favorite "do nothing" nonprofit organizations. If the voters vote for Newsom's Care Not Cash, they will finally see results. If the voters approve Ammiano's Exit from Homelessness plan, they will continue to see the same: more money spent each year on homeless, resulting in more homeless deaths on the street (many from drug overdoses).

Big shame on Supervisors Jake McGoldrick, Aaron Peskin, and Matt Gonzalez for signing this absurd piece of crap being added to the November ballot. Notice, none of the sponsors are up for re-election in November? Wonder why Supervisor Chris Daly didn't jump onto this one? This will follow them through the next two years if they do decide to run for re-election. It will also be a big part of Ammiano's losing mayoral race.

Please vote yes on Newsom's Care Not Cash and vote no on Ammiano's confusing measure.

James "Jimmer" Cassiol
San Francisco

No hope for HOPE

What Jeff Sheehy neglected to say last week in his op-ed on Proposition R, the condo-conversion measure being pushed by conservative Supervisor Tony Hall and funded by the Committee on Jobs, is that it won't work ["HOPE isn't a hoax," *Guest Opinion*, August 8]. It simply will not, despite its rosy promises, create home ownership opportunities for most LGBT folks. Judging by similar pilot programs in both San Francisco in the late 1970s and Santa Monica in the 1990s, Proposition R will cause the eviction of the majority of tenants who live in such converted buildings. And that will decimate the city's LGBT community.

While Sheehy and his husband may be fortunate enough to afford a condo, these homes are way too expensive for most of us in the LGBT community. Proposition R provides no funding for home ownership, no guarantee that banks will give us loans, and no incentive for landlords to sell their condos for anything but full market price. Supporters of R say condos will go for as low as \$156,000. But that wishful thinking is based on the price of rental apartments when they are sold as rental units. For instance, say a four-unit apartment building goes for \$500,000. Divide the price by four and you get \$125,000 for each unit. But if you condo-convert first, as Prop. R proposes, the price of the units goes up, up, up. With no incentive in R for landlords to sell units for anything but the going rate, the price tag in the Castro/Noe Valley will most likely be in the range of \$500,000.

But while you won't get to own, you will suddenly find yourself renting a condo, and under state law once that condo is sold, you lose rent control on the unit - forever! Three thousand, four hundred conversions annually are allowed under Proposition R; that's 3,400 units that will lose rent control. Over the next 20 years, we could lose all rent control under R. While R promises lifetime leases to protect tenants who can't buy their units, those leases are sure to be challenged in court and invalidated. Without these protections and without rent control, landlords will be free to evict tenants to make way for higher-income home buyers.

Roommates who are not on the lease or who don't pay rent directly to the landlord are not eligible to buy under R. If your leaseholder roommate buys your unit, you could find yourself living with your landlord which means you lose just cause eviction protec-

tion and can be thrown out with only a 30-day notice. Even the handful of tenants who manage to buy their own apartments (in Santa Monica it was 8 percent) may find themselves at the mercy of a condo association that could nix rainbow flags or dogs. After all, condo association are ruled by the majority and if the majority is straight and uptight, sexual freedom could become a memory - even in the Castro. Prop. R is a risky proposition. Let's not gamble with the future of our community.

Jerry Threet, Phillip Babcock,
Criss Romero, Gwenn Craig
Former Presidents,
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club

R=risky, risky, risky

If something doesn't work the first two times it's tried, chances are it won't work the third time. That's certainly the case with conservative Supervisor Tony Hall's condo-conversion measure, Proposition R, also known as HOPE. It's been tried twice before - once here in San Francisco and once in Santa Monica. Both times it failed miserably: Few tenants (a mere 8 percent in Santa Monica) got to own their apartments and thousands were displaced.

With no funding source in R and no incentive for landlords to sell units at anything but market rate (around \$500,000 right now), R will not be a way to home ownership for tenants - whether they be teachers, retail workers, nonprofit employees, nurses, security guards, police officers, small business owners, etc. A small percentage of tenants in a building (as low as 25 percent in some cases) will decide the fate of all the other tenants by signing a letter to agree to the condo conversion. Those who don't sign will receive lifetime leases that will certainly be challenged because they are questionable under state law. Once their condo-converted units are sold, they lose rent control forever. Roommates who are not on the lease can't buy under R (they don't even receive lifetime leases) and if their master tenant purchases they can be evicted with only a 30-day notice.

As was the case the last two times, R is risky, risky. The LGBT community should join the growing list of those who are saying no to this unworkable proposition.

Tommi Avicelli Mecca
San Francisco

What 'norms' and 'values'?

Part 1 of Dale Carpenter's jeremiad on the Pride Parade was missed, but as I read Part 2 ["Ditch the parade (part 2)," *OutRight*, July 25] the anguished voice of my sainted grandmother bemoaning, "Whatever will the neighbors think?" echoed in memory.

Carpenter's own dismay over "the smaller towns and rural areas," his neighbors to be appeased, would gain in clarity if, among other things, he could be more concise in what he is writing about, as when he pontificates on "social norms" and "mainstream values." Just what norms and values does he reference? There is quite an array, all claiming authority, to pick through - the fundamentalist right, geographically disparate enclaves of the lower and middle classes, the free wheeling and dealing upper class. But, hey, it helps to keep consciousness at a minimum when one is intent on indicting a very sizable number of one's peers to be classified as undesirables.

To get one's skivvies all askew over drag queens because one feels they transgress "social norms" and "mainstream values" displays a remarkable ignorance of a theatrical tradition in operation for centuries and very much a part of social norms to this day in both Western and Eastern cultures. Carpenter's antipathy again undermines both conciseness and integrity in his flimflam assertion, "Stonewall was not solely a riot of drag queens..." I have never read a claim, and I'll wager neither has he (let's have a citation, counsellor), that it was only drag queens that were a loud vocal segment of the demonstration, occasionally assaultive with feminine accouterments. But such a niggling of history is not so important as the lesson to be taken from the Stonewall insurrection, the same lesson to be taken from black civil rights militants, Rosa Parks to Selma and beyond, from the radical revolutionaries who precipitated the founding of this nation: you only demean yourself by pleading for equal rights; you damn well better demand them. Doubtlessly, there are those among us who consider this very American lesson also transgresses "social norms" and "mainstream values."

Carpenter also goes awry in pegging the Pride Parade as outside such norms and values. Again, for centuries societies have sanctioned Carnival, the feast of fools, when the citizenry is set loose to publicly act on impulses, engage in fantasies, and realize desires denied them the rest of the year. Ever been to Mardi Gras down New Orleans? Now there is a protracted display of gloriously wretched excess. The Pride Parade is our brief Carnival, and when it is over, just as when Mardi Gras is finished, it is safe to assume the vast majority of participants in both affairs return to enact social norms and display mainstream values

next page ►

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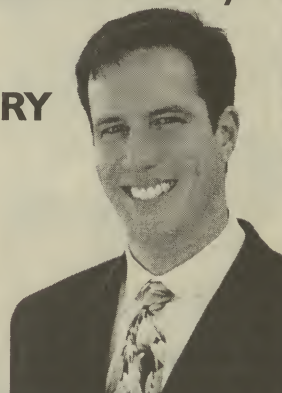


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Carpenter finds so cherishable.

Speaking as one of his suburbanites who held a joint mortgage with his lover until he died, and whose public lifestyle for 73 years Carpenter would no doubt view as exemplary, I find the man utterly offensive when he posits a dichotomy of an "us" as a sort of silent majority he fancies himself a spokesman for and whom he smugly characterizes as "quite normal, thank you," and a "them," the men and women who participate in the Pride Parade (perhaps as well the many thousands on the sidelines who enjoy it?) whom he brands as liars and, by implication, abnormal. They are us, Dale, arguably more us than you, for if you can't accept that, you are as deadly a bigot as the deadliest of our enemies.

Stan Farwig
Concord, California

Arnold as traitor

In your letters section of July 25, Mark Padgett writes that in his opinion, John Walker Lindh should be executed as a traitor, and suggests "maybe his parents as well." He cites as precedent and example Benedict Arnold who, he says, "was found guilty of treason and was executed."

To prevent the spread of misinformation: Contrary to Padgett's assertions, Benedict Arnold was not found guilty of treason and executed. He escaped and was given a commission as a British general. He later moved to England and died there, of natural causes, 20 years later in 1801.

If it is any consolation, he was held in contempt by the British people and died in poverty and disgrace.

Just as a footnote: Arnold had for years been treated very unfairly by the American Continental Congress and by the military hierarchy, and it should be noted that except for his courage and heroism, especially at the battle of Saratoga and at Lake Champlain, our American Revolution probably would have failed. This does not forgive the fact that he later attempted to compromise the defenses of West Point to the British and is justifiably considered a traitor to the American struggle.

Mr. Padgett expresses a very strong opinion, calling for the death of Lindh, and he is of course entitled to his opinion, but it would carry considerably more weight if it were an informed opinion. Or whatever, as he says.

Everett Reeves
San Francisco

He'll be missed

I read with great sadness of the passing of a long-time friend and elegant gentleman of our community, Edwin "Teddy" Hirschfeld [Obituaries, July 25]. He will be missed.

Marvin Michel Le Grier II
San Francisco

Grassroots still growing

The Pine Street Volunteers' "Grassroots Project" for the AIDS Emergency Fund has raised more than \$126,000 from 1987-2001 with street sales, raffles, bake sales, parties, etc. and we're not done yet! Our sincere thanks to all volunteers and donors, past and present. Our clients at the fund thank you for helping them cope with daily living expenses.

Our next big street sale will take place Saturday, August 24 and Sunday, August 25 at Pine and Leavenworth streets from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donations are needed (no clothes, please) and people can bring them on the day of the sale or contact me at (415) 775-9145 for more information. Bring your coins for our big penny jar.

David Slocombe
San Francisco

Disco items needed

Experience Music Project, a Seattle museum dedicated to popular music, will be opening in November an exhibit dedicated to disco music and culture. Among the many artifacts will be disco diva costumes from Patti LaBelle to Sylvester, as well as designer couture worn at Studio 54. The exhibit will also focus on San Francisco gay nightlife of the 1970s. The museum is looking to recreate the "gay clone" look of the era, and is seeking donations of the following items: plaid flannel shirts customized for nighttime wear (ripped-away sleeves, etc.), faded Levi's 501s (stains, tears, and holes preferred), well-worn construction boots, leather armbands, handkerchiefs, and other neckwear.

These items must have been purchased and worn during the 1970s to gay discos, bars, and other late-night establishments. The more these items show signs of use, the better.

After the closing of the Seattle exhibit, the collection will be traveling the country. When the tour is finalized, this "gay clone" outfit may become part of the permanent collection of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,

Transgender Historical Society. Items not selected for the exhibit may also become part of the historical society's collection.

These items may be mailed to or dropped off at the GLBT Historical Society, 973 Market Street, Suite 400 (between 5th and 6th streets), San Francisco, CA 94103. Business hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

Ann Powers, Experience Music Project
Kim Klausner, GLBT Historical Society

Mixed prevention signals

Once again, the B.A.R. has fallen hook, line, and stinker for a media story planted by the San Francisco Department of Public Health without prior release to the citizenry of San Francisco ("Viagra usage remains high among gay men, survey says," August 8). DPH and UCSF have been roundly criticized for planting media stories and not informing the local public beforehand. Before the Barcelona conference, DPH employee Steven Tierney, director of HIV prevention, noted in his report to the HIV Prevention Planning Council on May 9 that UCSF, and by extension DPH, were committed to releasing information locally before presenting it in Barcelona.

Your front-page coverage last Thursday shows DPH is not as committed as it would like the HIV Prevention Planning Council to believe, given that the Viagra study was released in Barcelona July 11 and we are just now getting wind of it locally. Fully 30 days later, DPH is just getting around to presenting the information to U.S. audiences for the first time. Such is their commitment to "...not repeating previous experience[s] of information being presented and quoted in the media prior to informing the HIV prevention and services community," per Tierney's remarks in the minutes of the May 9 council meeting.

As for the community not heeding the prevention messages, there are clearly mixed signals being presented in San Francisco. On the one hand, DPH comes to the table late, announcing an August 15 community forum to discuss Viagra use. On the other hand, we have the gay Pride organizing committee issuing Pfizer a permit for a Viagra booth at the parade held at the end of June. How are gay men to uncross these mixed messages? The booth tells us it's okay to have Viagra in our lives; now DPH is saying something different entirely.

Matthew Bajko cites the Stop AIDS study of having interviewed 884 people, yet the abstract on the Barcelona Web site lists only 644 survey participants. Did the Stop AIDS project actually interview another 240 people in the 30 days between Barcelona and now, and if they did, how did DPH manage such a fast analysis, when they usually take far longer to analyze anything? Nor does Bajko report on any of the demographics of the abstract, which reveals that 66 percent of the survey pool included white men and 65 percent of the survey pool included men with at least one, and possibly more, college degrees. This is not a cross-sectional, representative sample of gay men in San Francisco; once again, this is convenience sampling targeting particular venues like sex clubs and bars in the Castro. Notably, neither the abstract nor DPH's recently-released annual HIV/AIDS report for 2001 presents a zip code distribution of survey respondents, so we have no clue as to whether this sample was drawn from all locations of the city, or whether the data is simply that much further skewed by over-sampling in one area.

Disturbingly, this study, like so many other of DPH's studies, is based on "ever use"; it does not reflect current usage of Viagra. The data is artificially inflated by including anyone who has ever used it and who may have already stopped using Viagra due to adverse reactions. "Ever use" is a dead ringer that something is dead wrong with this study design; "current" versus "ever" use is the biggest confounding factor DPH allows its data collection to be skewed by. Neither the major media nor the B.A.R. have yet to catch on to how this inherent bias invalidates DPH's wild conclusions. Just what we don't need: More flawed data being touted as fact! From my perspective (and I am just expressing an opinion and not making an allegation), it is just this sort of flawed data that skates dangerously close to being criminal.

Finally, Bajko does not report on a second Viagra study DPH presented in Barcelona which was conducted at the city's STD clinics. The second abstract concluded that "Viagra use was less frequent in our study than suggested by previous surveys," but we hear not one word of qualification by Bajko, the Stop AIDS Project, or DPH sources in your coverage, nor is it likely DPH will circle back and correct their planted story that Viagra use is not as frequent as it may have once been.

Appallingly, DPH has now waited a full month to get around to releasing this information locally. What impact will its 30-day foot dragging have on increased seroconversion rates in S.F., and how much additional needless human suffering will ensue owing to foot-dragging?

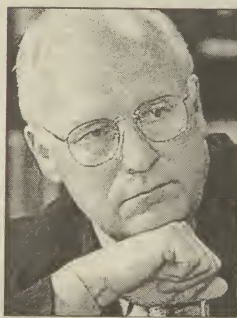
Patrick Monette-Shaw
San Francisco

POLITICS

Republicans pessimistic about the state ticket

by Wayne Friday

Vice President **Dick Cheney** spent a day in California last week speaking out about the misdeeds of corporate executives while at the same time insisting that the majority of business leaders are "honest and upstanding." Notably, the veep was not willing to discuss questionable accounting practices allegedly made by his former firm, Halliburton, which is currently under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Something about the usual "can't comment on an ongoing investigation." Oh, well.



Vice President Dick Cheney

The bigger news to come out of Cheney's California visit, however, was the fact that he was apparently unable to find time to appear in public on behalf of **Bill Simon**, the Republican nominee for governor in the upcoming election. It probably wouldn't have been a smart idea for the vice president to appear in public with another Republican who is also fighting alleged unlawful business practices of his own. Simon is desperately trying to stem the fallout from a \$78 million jury verdict against his firm in a fraud cause.

Cheney, in San Francisco last week speaking to the Commonwealth Club of California, willingly spoke out in defense of most corporate executives (who better to know?), saying that "all of us recognize that the vast majority in the business community are honest and aboveboard." The vice president, however, was unwilling to offer a word of support for Simon, the self-described "respected businessman" candidate who the Republicans put forth as their nominee for governor.

There is now some worry within the Simon camp that President **George W. Bush** himself could be looking for an excuse to get out of a previously scheduled pair of fundraisers for Simon that are supposed to take place during a planned two-day visit to the state on August 23 and 24. Since the invitations have apparently already been sent out, it is unlikely that Bush will back out of the promised fundraising efforts, but look for the press to be barred at the events.

One top state GOP strategist, worried that Bush will fail to show later this month, subtly warned the White House that "there is no way for them to cancel without dealing with accusations that they've already written off the Simon race for November."

Considering the developments in the Simon campaign, some Re-

publicans have reportedly already thrown in the towel on their candidate. An unnamed top Republican strategist, in a recent comment to *Calpeak* newsletter, suggested that it's all over for Simon, saying, "We needed a superior candidate and a superior campaign [to defeat Governor **Gray Davis**] and as of now we have neither."

Worse yet, state GOP leaders who only a couple of months ago held out hope they could win not only the governor's race, but a couple of other state constitutional races as well (they currently only hold one—the office of secretary of state) now fear Simon will pull the entire ticket down in November.

The secretary of state seat now held by termed out Republican **Bill Jones** was thought to be one the Republicans

would surely keep. Former Assemblyman **Keith Olberg** was favored to keep that job in GOP control, but now San Francisco Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley**, the Democratic nominee, is favored to win the seat, paving the way for a complete Democratic sweep in November of all statewide constitutional offices.

As flawed an incumbent as Davis is as governor, he now is clearly the favorite for re-election and should be an easy victor over the scandal-plagued Simon.

Politics and people

San Francisco supervisors face a tough sell to convince voters in November that their City Hall jobs should be considered "full-time" and that they should be paid accordingly. Despite what most San Franciscans think of the current board (and it ain't all that good, folks), they do put in too many hours for what could be considered part-time pay. It should be made a full-time job and supervisors should be given a decent salary, regardless of how silly some of them sometimes look.

Indeed, one of the moments that had most of the supes, as well as much of the audience, snickering last week was when Supervisor **Jake McGoldrick**, a guy who obviously is so full of himself he's in love with his own voice—I mean, the guy rambles on and on about nearly every agenda item, quoting everyone from Shakespeare to **Bob Dylan**, to the obvious annoyance of his colleagues—well, he stood up and rambled on about granting the 49ers naming rights to Candlestick Park. When he finally stopped talking and sat down, Supervisor **Aaron Peskin** asked McGoldrick the question everyone else wanted to ask when he said: "Supervisor, are you for it or against it?" Hell, I don't even know McGoldrick, but the remarks at City Hall about his perceived self-importance are growing weekly (gotta agree with the *Examiner's* **Warren Hinckle** on the guy).

Congrats to Supervisor **Sophie Maxwell** (District 10) who will easily win re-election in November. The popular supe has no one—not a single candidate—running against her.

And those who supposedly know these things tell me that if anyone has a chance to take out Supervisor **Chris Daly** in District

6 this year, it would likely be **Roger Gordon**, a bright young guy who was the executive director of Urban Solutions (formerly the South of Market Foundation).

Oops: Last week I reported that outgoing Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** had endorsed **Lynne Newhouse Segal** against Supervisor **Gavin Newsom** in District 2. Well, I quickly got a phone call from **Eric Potashner**, Migden's top man in the State Building, telling me how mistaken I was. According to Potashner, "Assemblywoman Migden is not

supporting Lynn Newhouse Segal." Hell, that could be either bad news or good news for Newhouse Segal (depending on what you think of Migden), but Newsom will likely consider it welcome news.

And some of the most politically astute people I know have come to believe that Supervisor **Tom Ammiano**, a serious candidate for mayor, might be "a few days late and a few bucks short" when he apparently misjudged Supe Gavin Newsom's wildly popular Care Not Cash ballot proposal. Some would say Ammiano ignored the idea until he got a look at the poll numbers, and is now trying to play political catch-up with his Exits from Homelessness ballot plan. A tough game, politics... but face it, folks, homelessness is the issue in next year's mayoral race.

Top national Democratic Party leaders are said to believe that the 2004 presidential sweepstakes will eventually boil down (after the others fall away) to an all-out battle between **Al Gore** and Senator **John Kerry** (D-Massachusetts), with Kerry eventually winning the nomination.

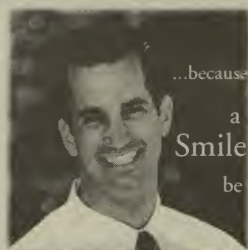
Meanwhile, look for New York City to host the 2004 Democratic convention, despite strong competition from Boston in the person of Senator **Ted Kennedy** (D-Massachusetts). NYC has pledged \$75 million to host the party, a far cry from the paltry \$25 million promised by Boston and two other contenders, Detroit and Miami. Another thing the Big Apple has going in its favor is the growing political power of Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton** (D). Nostalgia helps, too—the last time the Democrats met in New York City (1992) for the convention they nominated **Bill Clinton** in July and he beat incumbent President **George H.W. Bush** in November.

District 6 Democrats have fun—especially when "Miss Kitty," a.k.a. **Frederick Hobson** is throwing the party. A big crowd turned out Saturday at the trendy Backflip and a good time was had by all.

Finally, San Francisco lost two fine people (and I lost two good friends) last week in the passing of Robert Barnes, an icon at the age of 42 in the world of politics, and George Banda, a dear friend who, I believe, was probably the most pro-gay heterosexual man I ever met. Their deaths are huge losses to San Francisco and they will be sorely missed.

And how was your week? ▼

Got a political item? E-mail WayneFridaySF@aol.com.



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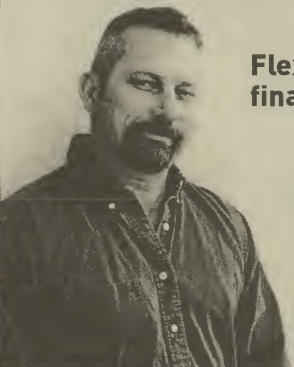
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Our bodies, our health

by Paula Martinac

With the alarming revelation that hormone replacement therapy (HRT) actually increases women's risk for heart disease, stroke, and breast cancer, the country may finally be waking up to something lesbian and feminist health activists first talked about 30 years ago — that menopause, like pregnancy, isn't a disease to be "treated."

The danger of HRT is as big a scandal as Enron or pedophile priests, representing a massive breach of public trust. Millions of women have taken synthetic estrogen to relieve the annoying indications of menopause, like hot flashes, loss of sex drive, mood swings, and insomnia, and also to guard against heart disease and osteoporosis. Doctors have even prescribed hormones to perimenopausal women (those in their 40s, just prior to menopause) to deal with pesky problems like irregular periods. Without a doubt, straight women have been the primary market for this therapy, which amounts to yet another sexist ploy (like Botox or cosmetic surgery) to convince women that they must halt the aging process. Now many of the women who used HRT face life-threatening health issues that could make feeling sweaty, cranky, tired, and not in the mood look pretty good by comparison.

On the hopeful side, the HRT crisis may help bring the terrible era of overmedicating women to a well-deserved close. In just a few weeks, there's been an explosion of media focus on alternative ways to navigate the trying time that my mother's generation referred to — in hushed voices, of course — as "The Change." And when Katie Couric starts weighing the merits of herbs like black cohosh and valerian for coping with menopause, a lot of women will be listening.

What's not being said in the media, though, is that much of the information about alternative therapies isn't new. During the heyday of the women's health movement in the late 1960s and early 1970s, feminists critical of the male-dominated medical establishment began learning about their bodies and sharing this knowledge with other women through clinics, workshops, and

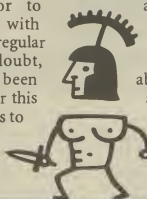
books like *Our Bodies, Ourselves*. In particular, they sought out natural therapies and preventative medicines from Asian and Native American cultures.

Not surprisingly, a lot of the healthcare activists who spearheaded this movement were lesbians. Among them was Dr. Joan Waitkevitz, a physician in New York who often had two choices of remedies to prescribe — a conventional pharmaceutical one and an herbal one. If you chose the herbs, there was a well-stocked, lesbian-run apothecary shop in the neighborhood. Many of these lesbian healthcare workers brought their valuable knowledge of self-help and natural remedies with them when they volunteered during the AIDS epidemic.

Although it's not what it once was, the feminist health movement is still going strong in some areas — including cyberspace. The pioneering Feminist Women's Health Center in Washington state now has branch clinics as far away as New Hampshire and Georgia. Its Web site (www.fwhc.org) correctly addresses menopause as a wellness issue, not an illness.

There are out lesbian practitioners, too, like Dr. Kate O'Hanlan, a gynecological oncologist practicing in Northern California, who has co-written a valuable book called *Natural Menopause*. At www.ohanlan.com, she suggests a variety of simple alternatives to hormones. She and other feminist healthcare providers stress the need for women over 40 to get regular weight-bearing and aerobic exercise and to follow a diet that includes whole grains and soy, in order to help manage menopause and avoid heart disease, osteoporosis, and possibly even cancer.

In addition, the program of the upcoming (August 21-25) Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex Health Summit in Boulder, Colorado, features sever-



Lesbian Notions

al workshops on alternative medicines, including one for lesbians. Unfortunately, however, the summit doesn't specifically target the needs of perimenopausal and menopausal women, except in one workshop aimed at bisexual women and called "Loving Our Perimenopausal Pussies."

That may be because our community, just like mainstream America, often glosses over the health concerns of women over 40 — until they become manifested in a disease like breast cancer. When was the last time, for example, that you read about women's bone health in the lesbian and gay press? The concerns of younger lesbians, like pregnancy issues and safer sex, make better copy — that is, when they're dealt with at all. We've also virtually erased the enormous contributions lesbians made to managing our community's wellness. Nowadays it's more popular to diss 1970s lesbians for going off the politically correct deep end than it is to praise their groundbreaking work in the area of self-help.

What the HRT crisis clearly demonstrates is that health care for middle-aged women is in a sorry state. Ideally, our community would use this information to set up workshops specifically for 40-plus lesbians, implementing the lessons of the feminist health movement. That, of course, means acknowledging that maybe all those granola- and tofu-loving lesbians weren't so crazy after all. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at PMcolumn@aol.com.

Prison rape bill

◀ page 4

mental health counselor Robert Drummond, who stated that prison rape survivors often experience post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, and depression. In addition, he said that prison rape contributes to the spread of AIDS, hepatitis B and C, and other diseases.

Although studies are scarce, it is estimated that of the total U.S. prison population of about 2 million, between 10 percent and 20 percent — several hundred thousand inmates and pretrial detainees — are subject to forced sex each year.

The legislation is supported by a number of human rights and other organizations, including Stop Prisoner Rape.

"This legislation is the first serious federal attempt to deal with a human rights crisis that has been

virtually ignored in this country," said SPR Executive Director Lara Stemple. "The sexual abuse of male and female prisoners in U.S. facilities occurs at an alarming rate, destroying lives, derailing justice, spreading disease, and perpetuating violence both inside and outside of prison walls."

Human Rights Watch and GenderPAC both released reports recently on the problem of prison rape. "The Kennedy-Sessions bill finally confronts the increasing human rights catastrophe of gender-based sexual assault in America's prisons," said GenderPAC Executive Director Riki Wilchins. "Prisoners ... are often targeted because they are perceived to be feminine — that is, shy, weak, gay, small, or non-violent."

Several proponents of the proposed legislation have focused on the issue of disease transmission both among prisoners and within

communities when prisoners are released. But Judy Greenspan of the HIV/Hepatitis C in Prison Committee of California Prison Focus — although glad the issue of prison rape was finally getting some attention — expressed some reservations.

"To use both the HIV epidemic and the hepatitis C epidemic as justification for passage of this bill is opportunistic and misguided," she said.

Hepatitis C is rarely transmitted sexually, and Greenspan said she is concerned that the focus on disease could lead to measures such as segregation of HIV-positive and HCV-positive prisoners.

"This bill should call for mandatory HIV and HCV education, decriminalization of sex and drugs in prisons, and mandate prisoner access to harm reduction methods like condoms and bleach — at the very least," said Greenspan. ▼

Who was Federico Garcia Lorca?

by Paula Martinac

August 19, 1936 (66 years ago this month): Five weeks after the start of the Spanish Civil War, renowned poet Federico Garcia Lorca is executed by a right-wing death squad.

Referred in his lifetime and remembered now as one of the greatest of all Spanish writers, Federico Garcia Lorca was cut down in his prime by fascist rebels – in part because of his left-wing politics, but also because of his homosexuality.

In 1898, Lorca was born into a wealthy family near Granada in southern Spain. The future world-class poet was a surprisingly poor student; once as a student at the University of Granada, he even failed a literature course. He did, however, write prolifically during his university years, publishing two books by 1921.

A transfer to the University of Madrid furthered Lorca's development as a writer and intellectual. There he became friends with other young artists, including painter Salvador Dali and filmmaker Luis Bunuel. Lorca fell deeply in love with Dali; photographs of the two show them

being suggestively physical with each other. Although some biographers believe Lorca and Dali sexually consummated their relationship, it is not known for certain. Eventually, Bunuel supplanted Lorca as Dali's closest friend and sometime collaborator.

Despite more publications and considerable literary success, Lorca suffered from depression, brought on mostly by internalized shame about being gay. He took off for New York in 1929, a trip that lasted eight months and inspired one of his best-known (and most openly gay) poetry collections, *Poet in New York*, published posthumously in 1940. The volume included "Ode to Walt Whitman," in which Lorca sympathized with closeted gay men who must "love and burn their lips in silence."

The following year, Lorca traveled on a lecture tour to Cuba, a country that opened his eyes to the possibility of being more contentedly gay. There he pursued an active sexual life and composed a play called *The Audience*, which was so openly gay in its theme – actors in a queer production of *Romeo and Juliet* – that Lorca dubbed it "a poem for booing."

Soon after Lorca returned to Spain, his country abolished the monarchy. The new republic ad-



Federico Garcia Lorca

vocated bringing cultural activities to rural areas, and from 1932 to 1935 Lorca served as artistic director of a government-sponsored traveling theater company. Rafael Rodriguez Rapun, secretary of the

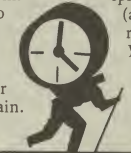
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Suggested reading

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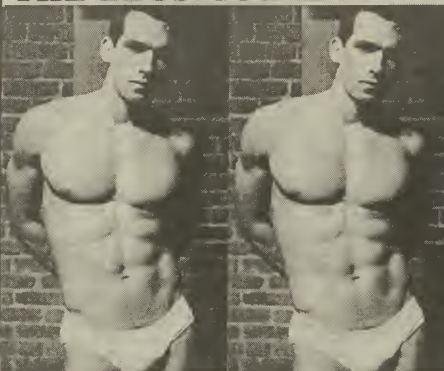
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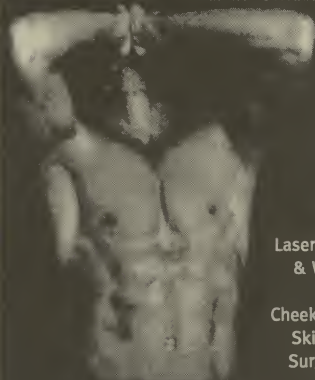
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Cauley calling it quits

by Zak Szymanski

She came, she saw, she put her candidacy on hold. Transgender activist Veronika Cauley announced last week that she was withdrawing from the November race for supervisor of District 8.

Citing a lack of support and finances, Cauley said she had become disillusioned with the elections process, and that the district elections in general, she felt, were unfair.

"The opportunity to serve should be affordable for all. Currently the policy makers are the ones that have money. The people running have money, or backers with money. I think you get the picture. That is what makes it unfair. The people with the money are usually out of touch with the issues," said a letter announcing her withdrawal from the race.

"I like citywide elections," Cauley told the *Bay Area Reporter* in an interview on Tuesday, August 13. "A lot of people in the districts don't involve themselves as much as people think. The Elections Commission, instead of trying to fire Tammy Haygood, should be concentrating on getting candidates registered earlier in the year so people can spend more time campaigning. I believe that if people had heard me speak on the issues, I would have received the support and financial backing I needed."

Cauley's issues of choice, with which she has had personal experience,



Veronika Cauley

include transgender rights, solving the homeless problem, reforming substance abuse policies, and addressing the lack of equity for people of color. Although as a candidate she opposed Supervisor Gavin Newsom's Care Not Cash ballot initiative, she has since reversed her stance based on personal experience.

"I heard Gavin Newsom speak about it, and I got to thinking about my own life when I was homeless (in 1989), and how I would use my money to get a hotel and do crack, and it kept me in the cycle of being homeless," said Cauley. "You repeat the cycle until you know where you're going to lay down your head, because without a home, you have

no clean clothes, and nobody will hire you if you don't know if you're going to get up the next day."

Cauley remains opposed to Supervisor Tony Hall's Home Ownership Program for Everyone measure, because "the intent may be good but if I owned a building I would not let people buy it from under me and I don't think landlords are going to do that. It doesn't make sense, and it's a waste of referendum money to put it on the ballot."

Cauley, a Navy veteran who now serves on the San Francisco Veterans' Affairs Commission, has been active on many citywide committees, particularly those that have tried to address transgender issues. But she remains unimpressed by the standard rhetoric around transgender rights because, she said, nobody has yet to address the problem of transgender unemployment.

"Every politician likes to jump on the transgender bandwagon," she said, "but where are the jobs? They're still not hiring us. They're still not giving us a chance."

Although her time is not now, said Cauley, she does intend to run for office again one day.

"I still feel as though I am the thread to unite a fragmented community," summarized Cauley's resignation letter. "I will be back!" ▼

Trans-abuse

◀ page 2

taken to a police station in the Tenderloin District and booked for assault, battery, resisting arrest, and trespassing.

At the station, according to the suit, Burke was strip searched by female deputies, chided for crying over his injuries, and taunted for his gender identity when officers threw a blue dress into his holding cell. At one point, the suit alleges, an officer told Burke they needed to "see what he had" in order to place him in a proper cell, and after the strip search, the officer commented, "That is the biggest clit I have ever seen."

Burke was then transferred to the county jail at 850 Bryant Street

where he was reportedly placed into a holding cell with women. His injuries from the police beating were allegedly not given medical attention, and he developed an infection, prompting him to seek treatment at San Francisco General Hospital.

Police reports from the incidents have raised questions about Burke's own behavior, including his attempt to bite an officer at the jail, but Burke told reporters the move was in self-defense.

"Transgenders are the last underserved population," said McCoy during the news conference about his decision to take the case. "Jeremy spent close to a full year seeking remedy within the system he was given, and there was no remedy. This case hopes to change that." ▼

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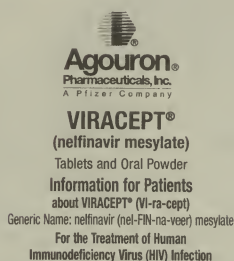
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VIRACEPT is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection. The most common side effect of VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with over-the-counter treatments. Some prescription and non-prescription drugs and supplements should not be taken with VIRACEPT, so talk to your doctor first. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in body fat, and increased bleeding in hemophiliacs. **HIV drugs do not cure HIV infection or prevent you from spreading the virus.**

Refer to the important information on the next page. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com.

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Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

Alert: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with VIRACEPT. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH VIRACEPT".

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT should be taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), EpiVir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Medicines you should not take with VIRACEPT:

Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
Halcion® (triazolam)
Versed® (midazolam)
Mevacor® (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)
Zocor® (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®
This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with: Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

Phenobarbital
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
Carbamazepine (tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
EpiVir (lamivudine, 3TC)
Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
Videx® (didanosine, ddi)

If you are taking both Videx (ddi) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood is unchanged. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Viramune.

Sustiva™ (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir™ (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects,

ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight Kg	Body Weight Lb	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. **Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.**

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Robert Barnes

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Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club.

"There has never been anybody so committed to electing qualified LGBT people for public office, so our community will miss that," added Hogan.

Along with Leno and Migden, Mr. Barnes's LGBT clients included former San Francisco Supervisor Leslie Katz, San Francisco Community College Board Trustee Lawrence Wong, former San Francisco school board member Juanita Owens, Superior Court Judge Kevin McCarthy and numerous San Francisco and state Democratic committee candidates. He also co-managed the first domestic partners initiative in San Francisco.

"He really enhanced the community's power as it related to the body politic at large," said Whitehurst. "He assisted any gay or lesbian candidate who came in our office and asked for help. We helped many."

Mr. Barnes was also a political consultant for many important civic institutions and their bond campaigns. His clients included San Francisco City College, the San Francisco Unified School District, Laguna Honda Hospital, the California Academy of Sciences, the de Young Museum, and the San Francisco Public Library.

He served as a political consultant and adviser for dozens of other elected officials including San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera. The first campaign Barnes managed was Dan Kelly's successful 1990 bid for the San Francisco Board of Education.

One of his earliest political experiences was working on the political campaign of his father. In 1977, Robert Barnes Sr. ran against and lost to Dan White for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. White would later shoot and kill Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone.

Mr. Barnes's commitment to gay rights, social change, and political involvement began early. As an out teenager in the 1970s he founded one of the nation's first teenage gay clubs at San Francisco's Lowell High School. At the encouragement of Milk, the 18-year-old Barnes worked as the youth coordinator for the No on Proposition 6 campaign to defeat the anti-gay Briggs initiative.

Apart from his consulting work, Mr. Barnes held numerous leadership positions within Democratic and LGBT community organizations. He was chair of the Lesbian and Gay Caucus of the state Democratic Party and was elected to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee.

"Robert was very close with the state Democratic Party. He was working on the inside on a lot

of things. He is not going to be there doing it anymore and that is a loss," said Nathan Purkiss, an aide for Leno who worked for Mr. Barnes for two years. "It doesn't mean we don't have other people to do the work. He was just very creative and driven. He played to win."

During his tenure as president of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, Mr. Barnes transformed the club into one of the most influential local gay political organizations in the country. The club regularly hosted candidates for mayor, Congress, and governor at its annual Pride breakfast.

"It's really rare to have someone who can so consistently and accurately put his finger on what motivates people to cast a vote one way or another. He was really able to use that gift to make a huge impact on a number of campaigns," said Hogan. "We will miss that razor sharp edge he could bring and really change the outcome of an election."

City resident Bill Ambrunn added, "Robert was a visionary. You may not have shared his vision, but you could never deny the fact that Robert saw things that none of the rest of us could see."

Even those who found themselves on the opposite side of an election battle said they will miss Mr. Barnes.

"Certainly, you always have to campaign your best when you are working against Robert Barnes,"

said Debra Walker, president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, who added you could never sleep when up against Mr. Barnes. "It certainly isn't over till it's over, especially with those last minute mailings that hit the day before the elections."

After graduating from Lowell, Mr. Barnes attended City College and served as the student representative on the Community College District Board of Trustees. A resident of the Castro and Palm Springs, Mr. Barnes is survived by his domestic partner and middle school classmate, Carlos Molina.

He is also survived by his father, Bob, a former leader of the Machinists Union; his sister, Mauri Barnes Luna, and his brother-in-law Joey Luna.

Friends and family will honor Barnes during a special birthday party remembrance to be held on Monday, August 26 at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Rotunda.

"Robert loved his birthday. Robert loved big parties. The feeling was it should be done the way Robert would have planned it," said Hogan. ▼

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Ammiano

◀ page 1

should not be kept from getting their stipend," explained Ammiano, citing the fact that many in these groups use their cash assistance for transportation, prescriptions, and other necessities.

Ammiano's measure came as welcome news to many who either opposed or were concerned about elements of Care Not Cash, including some candidates in the running for city supervisor.

Tom Radulovich, a candidate for District 8 supervisor, told the B.A.R. that while he had not yet read the specific language of Ammiano's measure, "I believe it's headed in the right direction."

"I'm pretty much opposed to Newsom's plan. But my concern with it has always been implementation," Radulovich said. "If we don't reform the bureaucracy

that's supposed to be delivering services now, there will be no guarantee of better services under Newsom's plan. When I worked on Muni reform, the first thing we did was find out what needed to be measured before we knew whether it was fixed. We needed to set up a series of steps to find the baseline to measure progress. And that's the sort of methodology I'm looking for in a homeless plan."

Eileen Hansen, also a supervisor candidate for District 8, is strongly opposed to Newsom's plan and believes Ammiano's approach of addressing services rather than pay cuts is a better way to go.

"Any homeless plan has to focus on services and increasing the budget and increasing services with regard to mental health, substance abuse, and housing," Hansen told the B.A.R. "Any proposal needs to be part of a com-

prehensive plan to deal with homelessness in all its aspects. And the continuum of care is a decent place to start."

Ammiano dismissed criticism that his measure was a last-ditch effort to address homelessness, as he has been meeting with various city agencies for several months to come up with a plan. Once Newsom's measure made the ballot, he said, that became the arena in which the issues would be decided. He said his own plan "doesn't believe that shelters are a real solution."

"It's a very important measure because our neighborhoods have been suffering, the homeless themselves suffer, and tourism suffers," said Ammiano. "This measure is guided by the belief that housing is the solution to homelessness, healthcare is the solution to illness, and treatment is the solution to addiction." ▼

Condoms

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men who answer they don't intend to use condoms.

"We could have enough condoms to condom everyone in San Francisco, but what we need is the one-on-one self-esteem building for the more at-risk people," said Robertson.

The general consensus among prevention officials is the standard condom code no longer works with gay men who for the past two decades have been bombarded with the message, "Use a condom."

"What happened during the early 1990s, when we were down to 500 new infections a year in San Francisco, the assumption was if two people came together to have anal sex, condoms were just used," said Dr. Thomas Coates, director of the University of California, San Francisco Center for AIDS Prevention Studies. "People didn't have to negotiate it or discuss it. It was just done. That is no longer the case."

While the Stop AIDS Project

continues to maintain dozens of condom jars at various bars, clubs, and sex shops, its outreach workers have found they need to also go to public places where men cruise for sex. At several parks throughout the city, the agency has placed mailboxes filled with condoms and lube.

"It is mostly married men out here who don't use condoms. They don't want their wives to find the receipt for buying condoms," said Brain Brashears, Stop AIDS' Polk neighborhood organizer. "It's important for us to be out here because they are not getting tested for HIV and don't know if they are infected."

Another outreach worker has begun setting up shop at adult bookstores and demonstrating how to use a condom in an effort to get men to practice safe sex.

"The staff at these places hand out 3,000 condoms a week. The staff told me the condoms get used more when I am actually there," said Teddy Partridge, the agency's South of Market neighborhood organizer.

Promoting condom use remains the best strategy in stop-

ping the spread of HIV, but prevention officials are finding more complex methods are needed to get that message across.

"With AIDS deaths down dramatically – and along with that, visible reminders of the deadly consequences of AIDS – just handing out condoms or discussing safer sex is not going to do the job. You need to establish places that are not gay bars or cruising areas where young gay men can create a community that supports them in all aspects of their lives," said Susan M. Kegeles, UCSF professor of medicine and associate director of CAPS.

As HIV rates rise in San Francisco, prevention officials have begun to place more attention on condom usage and are compiling data to better address the issue. In the meantime, they will continue to pass out condoms and lube.

"We probably have to pass out a few more million condoms to get people to use them on a regular basis," said Robertson. "We go on the assumption people aren't going to use condoms all the time. We just try to get them to use them at the riskiest times." ▼

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CONTINUE TO TELL THE STORY...

Treatment & prevention at Barcelona, part 2

by Michael Lauro,
Survive AIDS Writers
Pool

In last week's column, we attempted to contextualize the recently concluded XIV International AIDS Conference held in Barcelona, Spain coming at year 21 of the epidemic, glossed over its opening ceremonies, and reviewed the presentations of four speakers at the conference's first plenary session.

We also tried to convey the continuing dilemma of the impact of AIDS playing itself out in two worlds — one rich and one poor. Now we turn to some of the issues raised from the treatment tracks of the conference. The final part of this Barcelona series concludes next week with a look at the activist role at the conference, public policy presentations, and comment on the closing ceremonies.

Treatment

Little new treatment information came out of Barcelona. Indeed, these international AIDS conferences have become "too large for efficient scientific exchange and therefore, many investigators choose not to present novel data," commented University of California, San Francisco's Dr. Steven Deeks. Deeks noted that as a consequence, "these conferences are largely political in nature. Their primary purpose is to bring clinicians, investigators, activists and political leaders together to discuss AIDS in resource-poor settings."

"Having said that," he continued, "these conferences do offer some relevance to patients in San Francisco." For example, "the FRAM data presented by Carl Grunfield from the San Francisco V.A. was very interesting. Provocative data were presented suggesting that fat accumulation, the so-called buffalo hump and protease paunch, is not HIV-related and, according to Grunfield, more common in HIV-negative rather than HIV-positive adults. This can have a huge impact on how we think about HIV lipodystrophy."

But Matt Sharp, an AIDS treatment activist, warns that Grunfield's data is still very preliminary noting that "many believe it's simply flawed since there are lots of us walking around with protease paunch."

Even Grunfield admits its cross-sectional, meaning it is only looking at one point in time.

Regarding new drugs in development, while noting that much of the information was "old news," Deeks was nevertheless encouraged by the continued good prospect of T-20. There are some 21 new drugs and 25 vaccine candidates in the pipeline hoping to compete with the 16 most common HAART drugs in widespread use. Another 50 or so are in very early animal or laboratory testing stages, years away from even a whiff of promise to PWAs. One oral presentation in Barcelona attempted to review over 40 of these in less than 30 minutes, including everything from recycling an old insecticide to more promising adjunctive therapy drugs like the immunomodulating stimulating agent Interleukin-2 (IL-2), a cy-

tokine once referred to as T-cell growth factor.

T-20 is the first of an entirely new class of fusion inhibitor drugs preventing HIV replication in an entirely new manner. T-20 also seems to work in the face of multidrug-resistant virus. One caution mentioned with IL-2, based on the large ESPRIT study, was that CD4 nadir probably does impact its efficacy, although this was not new news.

Finally, Deeks mentioned the work of Diane Havlir, who presented the most definitive data to date indicating that "most patients with undetectable viral load on HAART (still) have persistent viral replication at levels below that which we can detect with current assays."

Indeed, throughout the conference, speakers like Michael Saag noted that the use of viral load levels to trigger treatment initiation is becoming more and more suspect.

Marty Markowitz from the Aaron Diamond Institute reviewed HIV-specific immunity response therapies, including vaccine research. His presentation of "exogenous immunogen" therapies introduced into one's system included various vaccines using genetically engineered protein-based HIV antigens like ALVAC (recombinant canarypox) or AIDSVAX (gp120) developed by VaxGen, the largest AIDS vaccine study of some 5,400 patients in the U.S., Canada, and the Netherlands aimed at actually preventing HIV infection. Phase III results are expected by early 2003 but it is still years away from possible use.

Other exogenous therapies reviewed in Markowitz's talk were passive antibody infusion, and immune-based therapies like cytokines (IL-2 for example) and adjuvant therapy like HAART combined with vaccine therapy. Markowitz also reviewed more innate "endogenous immunogens" like reexposure to one's own autologous virus with STI to boost anti-HIV specific immunity.

Even with much of AIDS research driven by the pharmaceutical industry's desire for us to use its products, Barcelona did offer many presentations on the use of structured treatment interruption (STI) in both chronic (long-term) and primary (anywhere up to six months post-exposure) HIV infection settings. Both the oral sessions and posters offered a variety of time on/time off drug plans and, overall, the use of STI when closely monitored is clearly one part of the wave of the future.

STI allows for "drug holidays," reduces toxicity burden, may help reverse mutations of genotypic resistance to antiretroviral drugs, and can alleviate some drug side effect problems. STI may also offer patients a kind of therapeutic vaccination, harnessing a person's own immune system to control HIV through repeated autologous reexposure to their own virus. This is particularly promising for primary HIV infected (PHI) patients who opt for STI after discontinuing successful drug therapy. The rationale is that by putting newly-infected patients on AIDS drugs regardless of CD4

levels or current CDC guidelines, this may produce less aggressive virus and assist thymic function, the engine of CD4 production which is impaired early in HIV infection. STI may also offer chronically infected patients benefit in a salvage therapy setting.

Dr. Bruce Walker from Massachusetts General presented on the results of his colleague, Eric Rosenberg, who found virologic benefit in PHI patients on drugs for 18 months following by two STI cycles. Nearly two-thirds of these patients were still able to remain off drug after 74 weeks.

Preliminary data on PHI patients show a higher CD4 setpoint for patients who begin treatment immediately after exposure than those that either defer treatment or choose to not treat. Early data suggests this difference can be as

great as 200 CD4s.

However, Walker went on to report about one Mass General PHI patient who, although he successfully acquired immune response via therapeutic vaccination, was nevertheless infected again from a separate unprotected exposure with a different HIV strain. The second strain varied less than 12 percent from the originally infecting one. Walker noted that another similar superinfection case will shortly be published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, raising some concern about the implications of viral diversity upon global vaccine development. Walker concluded his remarks by commenting that "HIV vaccine development has been characterized by too much emphasis on single aspects of immune activation."

Some of the preliminary STI findings were that pretreatment CD4 levels were more predictive of the initial rate of CD4 loss that occurs following drug discontinuation than were presumably higher post treatment CD4 levels at the time of interruption. Also, that viral load is not a useful marker in this context. Walker noted that once STI begins, a quick viral rebound may be better than a slow, gradual accent. PHI patients were less likely to suffer a sudden CD4 loss once STI begins than were chronically infected patients.

Presenters like Tony Fauci were wary of STI and its effect on latent HIV reservoirs and possible viral resistance issues. Others noted their concerns regarding precipitant CD4 decline and viral rebound. However, almost none of the STI presentations ever warned of the problematic use of STI for patients using abacavir, for hepatitis C-HIV co-infected patients, or for patients with HIV and hepatitis B on some HAART drugs.

Compared to other drugs, abacavir patients run an increased risk of drug reaction when either missing doses or when starting and stopping abacavir in an STI context. In HIV-HCV co-infected patients, STI can lead to HIV viral rebound, exacerbating HCV-related liver damage. Finally, For HIV-HCV co-infected patients, HIV medications like 3TC and tenofovir can also provide benefit

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OBITUARIES

Nathan Edwards-Shreve



Nathan Edwards-Shreve departed this life on Friday, July 26, 2002 at the age of 35 from liver complications.

After spending much of his youth in Southern California, Nathan lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for 10 years, before relocating to Long Beach just last year.

He achieved a number of milestones throughout an impressive 15-year career in brain injury and physical injury rehabilitation. He completed dual Bachelors' degrees at Cal State Bakersfield, and an MBA from Golden Gate University. Beginning in occupational therapy, he was quickly promoted into supervisory and managerial positions, before founding a rehab program in the Bay Area. Starting in 2000, he reached the pinnacle of his career at Head Injury Rehabilitation Services, where he advanced from Northern California Regional Director to Vice President of Operations, and finally to Chief Executive Officer.

Nathan is survived by his loving partner, Matt Dillon of Long Beach, California, his sister Janelle Lowney, his brother Matt Shreve, and many dear friends.

A celebration of Nathan's life will occur on Saturday, August 17th, 2002 at 725 Treat Ave. in San Francisco. The event will begin at 4 p.m. and all who loved or knew Nathan are invited to attend.

Craig L. Wolf

September 24, 1950 — July 25, 2002



A passionate advocate for life's adventures, Craig embarked on yet another journey when he passed away unexpectedly.

His early years were spent in central Pennsylvania where he attended Camp Hill High School and Harrisburg Area College. Subsequently, he lived in New York City and worked for the Book-of-the-Month Club. In 1979, he moved to San Francisco. Here, he was employed by the Department of Health and Human Services until he accepted a position at the University of California at SF General Hospital where he worked on Ward 84 and 86.

From his travels throughout the world, Craig made many life-long friends. His generous and gentle spirit impressed all who knew him.

Among Craig's special interests were classic American jazz, Truman Capote

and Tennessee Williams, teddy bears and vintage toys, and the films of Elizabeth Taylor. Craig was an active member of the Keely Smith fan club.

His untimely death has affected many people. In addition to his partner Salvatore, he leaves behind a loving family, including his mother Kathryn and his brother William. He was predeceased by his father Todd.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

SF legend George Banda dies

by Cynthia Laird

George Louis Banda, often called one of the most gay-friendly straight men in San Francisco, died suddenly last Tuesday, August 6. He was 79.

Born to Luigi and Maria Banda in Melon, Wisconsin on February 27, 1923, Mr. Banda came to San Francisco as an infant and remained in his beloved city his entire life. He was a true entrepreneur, undertaking several businesses with gusto and dedication. From his first job shaking hides at a tannery, he moved on to delivering for Coca-Cola and later sold cosmetics for Max Factor of Hollywood in Kansas, started an independent trucking company (with one truck), and operated the former Polk Vallejo Market grocery in San Francisco.

In partnership with his dear friend, Doris Jennings, Mr. Banda also spent many years in the bar and restaurant business, managing the popular Club Dori on Presidio Avenue and Jacksons at Bay and Powell streets.

Mr. Banda was very active in the former San Francisco Tavern Guild and devoted many hours as a member of the board of directors of the Community Thrift store.

Having worked with and for Mr. Banda at Jacksons, *Bay Area Reporter* publisher Bob Ross remembers him as a good employer as well as a good friend.

"George was many things but he was indefatigable. He embraced gay rights and stood along with the rest of our community because he believed in it," Ross re-



George Banda

called. "This remarkable straight man also dressed up in comic drag for the 'Great Tricycle Races' and was a team captain of Jacksons Roller Skating Team. He thoroughly enjoyed himself in these endeavors.

"He was always generous in our community auctions and participated in those with gusto as well as cash," Ross added.

Mr. Banda became a longtime officer of the Tavern Guild, Ross said, and even served as its president.

"It was at his bar Jacksons that the Tavern Guild Foundation was formed as well as the first non-bar business organization was started," said Ross. "He was a truly unique man and will sorely be missed."

Mr. Banda also participated in the publication of *The Guide*, a national directory of gay bars and restaurants and for a time published the *Sentinel* gay newspaper in San Francisco.

In retirement, Mr. Banda

plunged full time into managing his real estate and stock investments, which he so enjoyed. He loved spending weekends at his wine country home in Healdsburg, strolling in his vineyard and hosting his many relatives and friends.

Mr. Banda was a life member of the San Francisco Elks Club, where he spent countless Tuesday evenings on the handball courts. His other pastimes included golf, dining out, and following the San Francisco 49ers.

The sixth child in a family of eight, Mr. Banda was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, John; and sisters Emily and Margaret. He is survived by his wife, June; his sisters Rosemarie Banda, Katherine Lucchesi, and Ellen Ryan; and his brother and sister-in-law Emiel and Dolores Banda.

Mr. Banda also leaves his daughter, Robin Green, and three grandsons, Michael Banda, Sean Burns (Terrie), and Jim Burns (Susan); great-granddaughters Abby Bankson, Brandi Burns, Jaimie Burns, and Christy Markis; and great-great-granddaughter Hailey Ann Markis.

He will also be sorely missed by his family and many friends for his unflinching sense of humor, generous heart and sincere joy of life.

A memorial service will be held Friday, August 16 at 7 p.m. at the Arthur J. Sullivan & Co. Funeral Home, 2254 Market Street, in San Francisco. The family prefers memorial contributions to the National Kidney Foundation of Northern California, 611 Mission Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94115 or to a favorite charity. ▼

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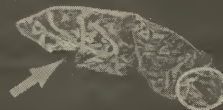
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Gay and bi men have higher suicide rate

by Liz Highleyman

A study published in the August issue of the *American Journal of Public Health* shows that gay and bisexual men are at higher risk of suicide compared with their heterosexual counterparts.

The study, conducted by Dr. Jay Paul and colleagues at the University of California, San Francisco, found that gay and bi men are about twice as likely to consider suicide and several times more

likely to attempt suicide.

According to the study abstract, 2,881 urban gay and bisexual men of all ages answered a telephone survey between 1996 and 1998.

The researchers found that 21 percent of the gay and bi men surveyed reported that they had made a plan to kill themselves, and 12 percent said they had made an actual suicide attempt; half of the 12 percent had made more than one attempt.

Among the male population at large (all sexual orientations com-

bined), an estimated 9-15 percent have considered suicide and 1-3 percent have attempted suicide.

Queer activists have for several years pointed to the higher suicide rate as a marker of discrimination and the lack of societal and family acceptance.

The researchers said that rates of suicidal thoughts and attempts appear to be highest among gay teens and young adults who came out earlier. They noted that some suicide risk factors "were specific to being gay or bisexual in a hostile environment." ▼

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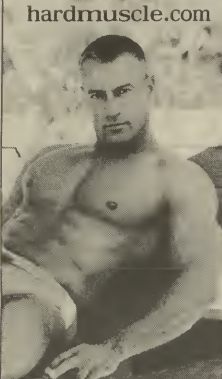
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Uplifting

by Jim Provenzano

Condense years of training, months of workouts, thousands of reps and immense effort into one brief moment. That's powerlifting. Add being openly gay and HIV-positive, and it defies more than gravity. Two Bay Area men are doing just that here, and in Sydney this November.

Juan Toledo has been training for almost two years in the sport, with years of bodybuilding before that. The 38-year-old Brooklyn-born massage therapist trains religiously at the Valencia Street Gym, where he also used to work.

"It's one of the few places that has a specific powerlifting facility," he said of the low-key yet well-equipped gym.

Toledo credits well-known Jim Schmitdtz — who trained several Olympic-level athletes — and the welcoming environment there as a strong foundation for his lifting gains. Toledo placed second at the recent state powerlifting championships in Napa, and will be competing in Sydney in the 75K category.

In contrast to the strain and pain of lifting weights over twice his weight, Toledo's massage therapy work at his Diamond Heights studio offers a welcome break for sore muscles.

"I'm focusing now on trigger point massage, which is Western-based," he said. When not lifting weights, he regularly studies a huge two-volume book on the variety of human muscular therapies and related studies.

Toledo also volunteers at hospices to offer his strong skills in helping others relax and heal. He's found that honing his skills in powerlifting has also helped his HIV-related concerns, something he's proud to mention.

"I'm happy I've been doing so well," he said. "I've always lifted weights. I thought my system would not take to it, because of the medications. But, in fact, lifting has helped my health and my self-esteem. Another benefit is having a goal."

Toledo said his partner, Gabriel Tsai, asked him if he may set larger goals after Gay Games. For now, their plans are limited to "seeing places outside of Sydney. We'd love to go to the Outback, really see Australia."

Until then, he'll be adding pounds to his lifting regimen, using that strength to relax others, and defying gravity.

Herculean

Any regular visitor to Duboce Park has met Luke Cotrill and his



Powerlifter Juan Toledo at a recent competition in Sacramento.

trusty bulldog, Hercules.

Raised in Lakeside, California, outside San Diego, where he competed in high school track, Cotrill has racked up quite a few medals.

Gay Games regulars know him not only for his powerlifting, but multiple track and field events (gold in shot-put, silver in discus, and bronze in hammer), gold in football (at Vancouver's Gay Games III), and more in powerlifting, adding up to eight medals, and counting.

He'll be competing in track and powerlifting events in Sydney. Cotrill trains at McAteer High School with the SF Track & Field Club, and for powerlifting at both San Francisco Gold's gyms. But his training is a bit different than the average Gold's regular. He practices the three requirements of sport: lifts, squat, and deadlift.

"Bodybuilders are doing things to look beautiful," he said. "I'm working to be strong. What's different is that anybody can become a powerlifter, because it's about how much can you lift. It has to do with focusing your energy within a manner of five seconds."

Some potential stress areas include, "the lower back and knees, not really shoulders, a little bit, not much. I have a build like my bulldog, a big upper body, so it's not a problem."

Cotrill has progressed from being in the Open category to sub-Masters, and now Masters. Among the gay world-class competitors he looks forward to seeing in Sydney are World Champion Scott Velliquette from Los Angeles, and English National Champion Jim Atkinson from London.

"It's a really wonderful, dynamic community," he said.

And although his intimidating size betrays an affable personality, Cotrill is quick to note that size isn't everything. "Little guys can lift tremendous amounts. It's about strength. You have to be right on the money or you miss it."

If he has one regret, it's being disqualified at Gay Games V in Amsterdam. "I opened too heavy

— at 405 pounds. You have to get on the board. The first lift should be a safe one that you know you can do. It's like a chess game. You have to pay attention to what you're doing. The third try should be something you've never attempted."



Powerlifter Luke Cotrill and his dog, Hercules.

Such patience is a useful skill in his work. He's in his 23rd year teaching at a Hayward middle school. "The kids don't mess with me. I love them and they love me."

Unfortunately, due to travel restrictions, another important part of his life, his dog Hercules, won't be able to accompany him to Sydney.

"He's the love of my life. He's actually very shy, like I am."

At 46, Cotrill sees himself as more than a symbol of strength for gay athletes. "Having AIDS, I want to show that we have the ability to beat it, one day at a time. So many people think that if you have this disease, that it's the end of you. I'm going to Sydney, and Montreal in 2006, God willing."

Bacchan, all

Many other Bay Area folks have already made plans to go to Sydney, and are planning fundraisers of all kinds. Add yours, or find out more about others, at the Team San Francisco Web site, www.teamsf.org.

Among them, Team SF is presenting an Australian wine tasting class. This tasting will be led by

next page ►

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CLASSIFIEDS

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

Pamela S. Busch, director of The Grapes of Path wine school. Tasty wines from down under, along with nibbly things, are yours for the donation of \$100. You get a primer on wine tasting, and you're donating to the Team SF Athlete's Assistance Fund.

The event is Saturday, August 17, at 1 p.m. at the Sports Club/LA San Francisco (at the Four Seasons Hotel), Yerba Buena Room, 747 Market Street in San Francisco. Call (415) 633-3900 for directions. Contact Glenn Galang for tickets or information at glenn@galang.ws or (415) 377-4556.

Ballsy

While San Francisco Giants are celebrating Barry Bonds's 600th home run, we can celebrate our own victory, of sorts.

According to a fan with cable TV, ESPNNews broadcast the post-game press conference with Jay Arsenault, the lucky yet bloodied guy who grabbed the now-priceless ball.

The Vacaville construction worker may be able to quit his job, if not for the fact that his boss gave him tickets to the game.

Near the end of coverage, a reporter asked him if he was married. Arsenault initially replied he

was single, then hesitated. Right before ESPN broke away, he said, "Well, there's my partner, Jim..." Forget Brendan Lemon. Baseball finally has a gay catcher, and the media is doing what's expected, "inching" him.

Boards-walk

For a gay pitcher, you'll have to travel to New York's Public Theater, where Richard Greenberg's play *Take Me Out* will be staged after its successful London premiere. A gay baseball player comes out, and a John Rocker-type homer-phobe's reaction leads to fired-up drama.

Sound familiar? Yes, my play *PINS*, previews this week. Same plot, different sport.

Life imitates art imitating life. Stop the presses. The real John Rocker went psycho once again, as you know. It seems the rabid Rocker can't bear dining with drag queens, and threw a hissyfit in a restaurant.

The *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* reports that days later, when he was called up to pitch in the seventh inning at a game, "More than half the crowd stood to cheer when he took the mound and was greeted by the Village People's 'YMCA' on the ballpark public address system."

Young man, there's a place you can go.

It's called Guam. ▼

Survive AIDS

◀ page 16

to combat hepatitis B. Let's hope these messages begin to get out before patients unilaterally begin experimenting with STI without the benefit of regular monitoring, testing, and the adequate counsel of their healthcare provider.

Several presenters reviewed data of more aggressive therapy by adding either or both IL-2 &/or hydroxyurea (HU) to a patient's drug regimen, sometimes referred to as an "optimized background." Given the toxicity problems associated with HU, that drug may well be limited to short course adjuvant therapy, especially in the context of PHI patients. When different HU doses were compared, a 600 mg bid dosing seemed most effective in one abstract presentation.

Finally, many PWAs crowded around the Newfill poster presentation. Newfill is an injectable polylactic acid product that many AIDS patients are attempting to access to combat the side effect of

facial wasting (lipoatrophy). The product is approved and available in Europe and Mexico. Doctors in major U.S. cities like San Francisco, Chicago, and New York have been trained to perform the procedure which generally takes three to four cycles of two vials each time.

Median reported increases in the dermis layer between 7 and 10 mm. However, with only limited observational studies of 10 patients at six months out, the unanswered question is how long the improvement will last. Anecdotally, most patients are pleased with the results they achieve with this product. One patient we spoke with in Barcelona who underwent the procedure shows little diminution in benefit after one year. Locally, the cosmetic physician with the most expertise in performing this procedure is Dr. Michael Chavez. The FDA recently prevented personal importation of Newfill from abroad by reclassifying it from a drug to the nonexempt "medical device" category, but other less direct sources of access are still available. ▼

Past Out

◀ page 11

troupe, became the primary love of the last years of his life.

As Lorca traveled the country, he also gave lectures and poetry readings, establishing himself as one of Spain's most popular writers. During that time, he penned some of his best-known plays. *Blood Wedding* (1933) was so commercially successful that Lorca became economically independent of his father for the first time.

Increasingly, Lorca was seen in public with gay friends and adoring male companions. In addition, he began to voice his political views, speaking up for socialism and against institutions like the Catholic Church. Both his homosexuality and his politics were duly noted by the far right in Spain.

In the summer of 1936, a right-wing movement headed by Francisco Franco staged an unsuccessful coup that resulted in the

bloody Spanish Civil War. Lorca and other leftists were rounded up by fascist forces in August 1936 and shot to death in an olive grove outside of Granada. According to one biographer, Lorca's executioner later bragged that, after his victim fell, he fired two additional bullets "into his ass for being a queer."

Fifty years after Lorca's murder, the Spanish government erected a monument on the execution site "in memory of Federico Garcia Lorca and all the victims of the Civil War." ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 1999-0232311-00
The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: 2 Fathom. Located at: 311 Cumberland Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business was conducted by an individual, signed Michael Piacentini. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: June 10, 1999. AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

BAY AREA REPORTER
CLASSIFIEDS
LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Free or low-cost health care, (800) 300-9950. If you or someone you know needs immunizations, check-ups, dental care, birth control, pregnancy testing, or prenatal care, call us. We are here to help women, teens, and children find free or low-cost health care. The Department of Public Health provides referrals to clinics, doctors, and dentists in San Francisco. Our English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin speaking staff are here to take your call, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm

WIC Program

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Program provides nutrition education, food vouchers, and breastfeeding support for pregnant women, postpartum women, infants, and children younger than five. Vouchers are picked up at a WIC site on a monthly/bimonthly basis and may be exchanged for milk, cheese, eggs, cereal, juice, peanut butter/beans, and infant formulas in most grocery stores. All WIC services are free of charge. For more information, please call (415) 575-5788.

INVITATION FOR BIDS - Solicitation No. 02-620-IFB-018

The San Francisco Housing Authority will receive sealed bids for Boilers and Associated Equipment Replacement at CAL 1-18 (1), JFK Towers and CAL 1-20, 3850 - 18th Street, located in San Francisco, CA.

Contract documents will be available for inspection or issuance at 1815 Egbert Avenue, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, on or after August 5, 2002. A processing fee of \$50.00 (non-refundable) will be required for each set of documents.

A site inspection will be held at the Housing Development on Thursday, August 15, 2002, at 10:00 a.m., with a pre bid conference to follow. Prospective bidders will meet at the building entrance to 2451 Sacramento Street, in San Francisco.

All bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. (PST), September 3, 2002 and read aloud on that date.

Questions regarding this solicitation for bids may be directed to Basil Nicolaou, Senior Project Manager, at (415) 715-5942. Contact Rozina at (415) 715-3212 for contract documents.

SOLICITATION NO. 02-620-IFB-037

SECTION 504 ADA COMPLIANCE UPGRADE WORK AT HOLLY COURTS (CAL 1-1) AND POTRERO TERRACE (CAL 1-2)

The San Francisco Housing Authority will receive sealed bids for the Section 504 ADA Compliance Upgrade Work at Holly Courts (CAL 1-1) and Potrero Terrace (CAL 1-2). Site inspections Tuesday, August 15, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. beginning at Holly Courts, 100 Appleton proceeding to Potrero Terrace, 1095 Connecticut. Bidding closes 2:00 p.m., September 3, 2002. Contact Carolina (415) 715-3171 for plans and specifications.

SAN FRANCISCO ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL LOST PET HOTLINE

Tell everyone you know about the SFACC lost and found Hotline! Dial 415/lost pet - on your touch tone phone and hear a list of animals brought to our animal shelter that day. We also provide complete information on how to look for your lost pet. Don't forget, that's 415/lost - p-e-t, or 415/567-8738.

We are the only shelter in the city that can accept lost animals, so keep our number handy. We hope you will never have to use it!

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

STATEMENT FILE 259340

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lucky Deli, One Bush Street Basement Level, San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tony Chow. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/17/2002. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259201

The following person(s) are doing business as: Ibarra's Carpet Cleaning, 350 Turk Street Apt. #1611, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Raul Ibarra and Juan Ibarra. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 12, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/12/2002. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259383

The following person(s) are doing business as: Elevation Records, 740 Bacon #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jason Walker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 18, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/18/2002. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259372

The following person(s) are doing business as: Alabaster, 597 Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Nelson Bloncourt. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 15, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/18/2002. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259508

The following person(s) are doing business as: ArtGeko Design, 486 Funston Avenue, Apt. #104, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Colleen Geven. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/2002. AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 217568

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Alabaster. Located at: 597 Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: September 23, 1997. This business was conducted by: Limited Liability Company. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259205

The following person(s) are doing business as: Kravet Fabrics, Lee Jofa, Kravet Furniture, Private Label Textiles, Galleria Design Center, 101 Henry Adams Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Lisa Kravet, Vice President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/12/2002. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

FILE NO. CMC-02-540346

In the Matter of the Application of Frank Derek Duran. For change of Name. The application of Frank Derek Duran for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Frank Derek Duran has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Francisco Derek Duran. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 5th day of September at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259427

The following person(s) are doing business as: Fitz Training & Consulting, 26 Museum Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Brian J. Fitzgibbons. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 22, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/22/2002. AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259384

The following person(s) are doing business as: Emilie's, 2230 22nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by an individual signed Emilie Ferreboeuf. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 18, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/18/2002. AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259725

The following person(s) are doing business as: Funding Solutions Ltd, 60 Berkeley Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Gary Thomas Hackett and Melinda Francis Washmer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 29, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002. AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29 2002

INVITATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

San Francisco International Airport is accepting responses to its Request for Proposals for the Boarding Area "F" Hub Handbag and Accessories Store Lease. RFP submittals are due Wednesday, August 28, 2002 by 5:00 p.m. PST.

The Lease consists of approximately 980 square feet of retail space, located post-security of Terminal 3. The term of the Lease is 5 years with one, two-year option. The minimum annual guaranteed rent amount is \$100,000, which will be the successful proposer's minimum annual guarantee for the first year. Tenant will be required to sell high quality handbags and related accessories.

RFP documents, addendums and further information can be obtained by calling Tomasi Reeb of Airport Concession Development and Management at (650) 821-4500.

08/15/02

CNS-420919#

BAY AREA REPORTER

INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

San Francisco International Airport will receive proposals until 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 28, 2002, for the Terminal 3 Discretionary Concession Opportunity Lease.

The Lease consists of two retail spaces for the sale of merchandise related to either 1) a watch concept or 2) a music concept. Space A is approximately 150 square feet, located pre-security in Boarding Area "E" of Terminal 3. Space B is approximately 455 sq. ft. (including 50 sq. ft. storage), located in the hub of Boarding Area "F" in Terminal 3. The term of the Lease is five years with one two-year option. The minimum acceptable proposal amount is \$100,000, which will be the successful proposer's minimum annual guarantee for the first year.

Information and Request For Proposal documents can be obtained by calling Tomasi Reeb of Airport Concession Development and Management at (650) 821-4500.

08/15/02

CNS-430638#

BAY AREA REPORTER

CONCESSION OPPORTUNITY AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

San Francisco International Airport is accepting responses to its Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Terminal 3 Specialty Retail Stores Lease. RFP submittals are due Wednesday, August 28, 2002, by 5:00 p.m. PST.

The Lease consists of two retail spaces in Terminal 3: (1) approximately 1,580 square feet located pre-security of Boarding Area "E", and (2) approximately 2,685 square feet located post-security in the Hub. The term of the Lease is five years with one two-year option. The minimum acceptable proposal amount is \$150,000, which will be the successful proposer's minimum annual guarantee for the first year. The successful proposer will be required to sell high quality functional gadgets and unique gifts items, and/or office products and business services.

Documents and further information can be obtained by calling John Reeb of Airport Concession Development and Management at (650) 821-4500.

08/15/02

CNS-430627#

BAY AREA REPORTER

STATEMENT FILE 259553

The following person(s) are doing business as: EverGreen Cafe, 645 Clay Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Benjamin Wu and Jenny Zhong. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/25/2002. AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259443

The following person(s) are doing business as: Grace Couture Bridal Collections, 3600 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Naghme Amir Alikhani. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 08, 1997. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/22/2002. AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

FILE NO. CMC-02-540377

In the Matter of the Application of Thomas Paul Shuster. For change of Name. The application of Thomas Paul Shuster for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Thomas Paul Shuster has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Zoe Olivia Corsi. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 23rd day of September at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259516

The following person(s) are doing business as: A.O.D.S.G.N, 931 Dolores Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mikal O'Neill. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 17, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/24/2002. AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
FILE NO. CNC 02-540383

In the Matter of the Application of Martin E. Blair, For change of Name. The application of Martin E. Blair for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Martin E. Blair, has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Delicious Vodka DeBlair. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 24th day of September at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259640**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Digital Memories. 4220 Cesar Chavez #211, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed David A. Lara. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 26, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/29/2002.

AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 22, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259753**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Dopamine Productions, LP. 854 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Mark Decena, co-president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 06, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259731**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Triangle Studio. 2573 Harrison Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110-2719. This business is conducted by an individual signed Howard M. Thornton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 1, 1993. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259653**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Stephanie's Businesscom, 31 Arleta Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tanya M. Johnson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/29/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259104**

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Stone Doctors. 24 Bernice Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Jason Born. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 09, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/29/2002.

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259973**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Royal Travel & Tours. 1048 Folsom Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Horace J. Diamond Jr. and Crissostomo Ibarra. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/08/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 259920**

The following person(s) are doing business as: A.R. Construction Company. 6345 3rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Ronald Arana, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/07/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 1999-0228822-00**

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Accelerated Innovations. Located at: 1621 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business was conducted by a corporation, signed Jim Reiter. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 5, 1999.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 260033**

The following person(s) are doing business as: BLO Salon. 500 Laguna Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Dominic (Nick) Aitken. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/12/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 1999-0232377-00**

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Accelerated Innovations. Located at: 311 Cumberland Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business was conducted by an individual signed Michael Piacentini. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: June 11, 1999.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002**STATEMENT FILE 260018**

The following person(s) are doing business as: Mexican Imports. 3901 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Juan Antillon. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 9, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/09/2002.

AUG. 15, 22, 29, SEPT. 5, 2002

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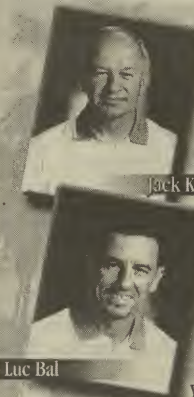
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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 32 • No. 33 • 15 August 2002

Scenes from a dissipation

by David Bonetti

For Americans today, John Deakin (1912-1972) does need an introduction. Robin Muir's *A Maverick Eye: The Street Photography of John Deakin* (Thames & Hudson, \$60) fortunately provides it. Closely associated with Francis Bacon — Deakin took many portraits of the great painter, and provided Bacon with photographs of his subjects to serve as *aide-memoirs* — Deakin was a first-class London eccentric. Reintroduced to public consciousness as one of the cast of colorful characters populating the background in *Love Is the Devil*, John Maybury's marvelous 1998 film about Bacon and his "gilded gutter life," Deakin is here given his own moment on center stage.

Described by journalist George Melly as "a vicious little drunk of such inventive malice and implacable bitchiness that it's surprising he didn't choke on his own venom," Deakin distinguished himself for his nastiness in a society of drinking companions that valued above all the artful put-down. You can see the meanness, along with the fear and the vulnerability, in photographs of him. A small, apparently timid man, he looks perpetually surprised at the wonders of life and the stupidity of his fellow humans fumbling through its detours in a vain search for the main thoroughfare. Fortified for battle by cigarettes and booze, he sits at a bar, his eyes hurt, but his pinched body — squeezed into a threadbare suit — poised for attack. Muir notes that a sense of shadiness followed him along with "a habitual trail of dandruff, cigarette ash and spilt red wine." On guard, he would pounce whenever a mark, willing or not, moved into his range. In his youth, he was kept by a rich American art collector. He was never known to pick up a bar tab or to pay his own bill.

And yet Deakin met his destiny as an artist in the louche pubs and private drinking clubs that were the scenes of his dissipation. He took the defining photographs of Soho, London's postwar attempt at Bohemia, and its artists, writers and drinkers. It was a scene that couldn't

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John Deakin's London in pictures

George Dyer, Francis Bacon's ill-fated lover, London, 1960s, photographed by John Deakin



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Salutat, 1898, by Thomas Eakins

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Thomas Eakins' active males

by Jim Nawrocki

The American painter Thomas Eakins (1844-1916) and American bard Walt Whitman (1819-1892) were good friends. That fact says as much about the age they lived in as it does about the men themselves. Both the painter and the poet rejected the traditionalism and conventionalism that weighed down their respective crafts, and were instrumental in bringing American culture into the modern age. Whitman's free verse, singing the praises of "armpits" and "the body electric," shocked the ears of the traditionalists, but undeniably moved American poetry forward by great leaps and bounds. Eakins' unromanticized portraiture and unrestrained presentation of both the male and female nude liberated American painting in a similar manner.

But that liberation did not happen overnight, and it had as much to do with Eakins' conduct as an artist and teacher as it did with his actual canvases. Eakins married one of his female students in 1884, and there is no evidence that he lived what we would today call a "gay" lifestyle. Like Whitman, however, Eakins celebrated the simple beauty of the unclothed human body, female and male. He left behind several paintings and photographic studies of young men engaged not only

page 33 ►

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

by Roberto Friedman
and Roman Clature

Even diligent, eagle-eyed B.A.R. readers might have skipped right by the **Legal Notices** columns in last week's issue, and thereby missed a small gem. These are the notices legally required for taking out a business name or changing your own name. They're the kind of Classifieds that run in the front section, not back here in the caboose.

The listing that caught our eye was, "In the manner of the application of **Martin E. Blair** for change of name." Mr. Blair "has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to **Delicious Vodka De-Blair**."

As is customary, the ad lists four court dates by which all interested parties might appear and give reason for objections. In the

public interest, oughtn't someone to determine if Mr. Blair truly is "Delicious?" OT hesitates to make the suggestion, lest someone suggest we take manners into our own hands. And we're not sure that's really where we want to be.

Rumors meanwhile abound around the newsrooms of the *SF Comical* that the formerly **Pink** editor, after a baptism by fire of less than a year, was seen interviewing for a new position in the offices of a daily in Sarasota, Florida. Yes, we know that's the land of hanging chads and the **Antonin Scalia** coup, but even so, surely the *Sarasota Tribune* (or *Times* or *Advertiser*) is a step up.

Come on ova

"Hey! You disrespecting the 'Bing'?" Get used to hearing everyone you know endlessly repeating lines in a Jersey accent again. Can you tell that we're thrilled thoity ways to Trenton that the new sea-

son of *The Sopranos* is finally here? When we heard tell that **Tony & Carmela's** house (or OK, the real house that *plays* the Sopranos' homestead on TV) would be featured in a glamorous spread in the September issue of *that tony interior decoration glossy*, we had to run out and find a copy.

The real Soprano mansion in Jersey is owned by one **Victor Recchia**, who sells copies of the house's floor plans on his website: that's the family way, Vic. So far, there are no little action-figures of **James Gandolfini** and **Edie Falco** available, so fuhgeddaboutit.



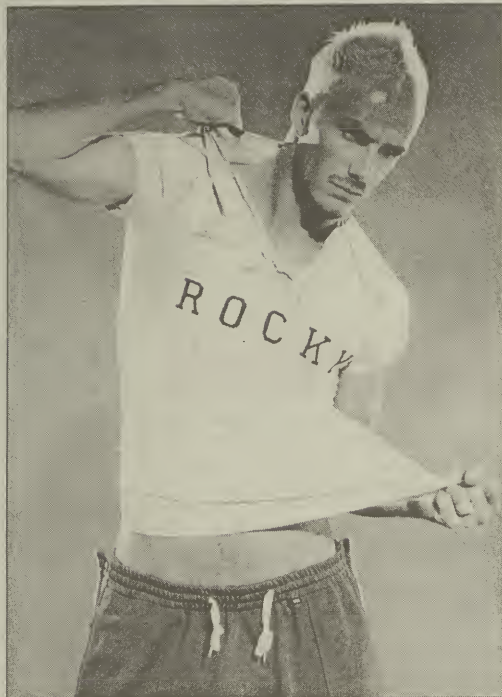
Tony Soprano's in the house.

Recchia says 250 replicas of his house have been built to date. That's quite a baby boomlet of Jersey mob-style villas. It only proves what they say — bad taste is truly contagious.

Good with balls

British soccer star/Spice Girl-shuttup phenomenon **David Beckham** is on the cover of London's *Attitude* for his first gay-press interview, and predictably he's ripping off his gear pleasingly in the **Marco Marezza** photo spread. "I've got a big fan zone in the male area," says Beckham. "I think it's a good thing." The photogenic, straight but gay-friendly footballer admits, "You know, I do think I get a different sort of attention." And we think we know where it's directed.

Beckham recalls the painful moment in a recent game when he was thrown by a Spanish defender and broke a bone in his foot. It was a tragedy even to *Attitude*, who "thought of the metatarsal bone as something rather rude, probably best not discussed with your maiden aunt."



Brit soccer phenom David Beckham gives it up for gay mag *Attitude*.

Out the Scouts, ring the Kings

IMAGE, a nonprofit promoting independent film and video production on the Peninsula, screens **Tom Shepard's** *Scout's Honor* at the Cubberley Theater in Palo Alto on August 22. The documentary traces the conflict between the anti-gay policies of the **Boy Scouts of America** and the broad-based movement by many of its members to overturn them. It has won awards at film festivals including Sundance and the USA Film Festival.

Director Shepard will be in attendance, and will answer questions and talk about how the film came to be. Tickets to the program, Aug. 22 at 8 p.m., at the Cubberley, 4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, are \$8 for nonmembers. Info: www.imagesite.org.



Fudgie Frottage's gonna do ya.

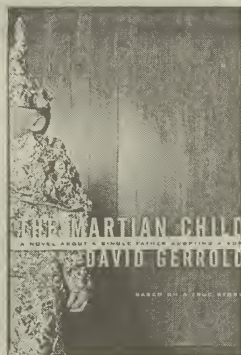
That same night, the ballsy **SF Drag King Contest** takes over Studio Z.tv, 314 11th St., for a pageant benefiting **Pets Are Wonderful Support**. **Leigh Crow** a.k.a. **Elvis Herselvis** will emcee, and celebrated drag kings **Fudgie Frottage**, **Rusty Hips** and **SF Drag King 2001 Howie Weenis** will be butchy on hand for the crowning of the new guy king. Tix are \$12-\$15; call 282-5378 for more information.

Chapstick maneuvers

We really loved the free sample of Blistex lip balm that somehow got sent to us in a press kit. The brand has a new product, **Blistex Clear Advance™**, and its clear advance is...? Lip balm for men. No cherry flavorings, no bright-color packaging. Buff balm, for

manly men who don't want their lips shiny. The p.r. even came in a little plastic tool kit with (we kid you not) a real screwdriver.

So the next time we were out with our he-man friends, we were feeling virile but a little chapped, and we took out our **Clear Advance™** and applied. Said a buddy: "What's that *candy* smell?"



Mars bars

Sometimes parenting can be an encounter with aliens. *The Martian Child* by **David Gerrold**, subtitled "A Novel about a Single Father Adopting a Son," is based on the author's true story of parenting as a single gay man (Forge). **Dennis**, the eight-year-old boy he adopts, is diagnosed with attention deficit disorder. Abandoned by addicted parents, he'd spent years being shuffled through the foster-home system, and was a real case. But Gerrold decides he will be a dad to the boy, and the clincher is that Dennis is convinced he is a Martian. To the L.A. County Dept. of Children's Services, this was a danger sign; to Gerrold, it was a green light. "At least I knew fantasy. I was an expert in that."

As a TV writer *wunderkind*, Gerrold penned the teleplay for the famous "Trouble with Tribbles" episode of the original *Star Trek* series, so you could say he already knew a thing or two about spacemen. In the course of his undertaking, he becomes acquainted with the habits and behavior of an even more exotic creature, the Earth boy. It's a quick read, and a humanizing one. ▼

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THEATRE

Latter-day saint and sinner

Gay 'Mormon Boy' confesses at New Conservatory

by Richard Dodds

Steven Fales, a sixth-generation Mormon, did everything he could to honor his family's faith. He even religiously watched *Donny and Marie*. But even in this innocent pastime, the cracks were beginning to show.

Most Mormon boys wanted to someday marry a girl just like Marie. "I wanted to marry Donny," Fales says in *Confessions of a Mormon Boy*, a frank, entertaining, and at times self-indulgent account of his personal journey to excommunication and beyond.

The one-man show is opening New Conservatory Theatre Center's eighth Pride season before heading to New York for an off-Broadway run. What sets this solo performance apart from other coming-out stories is Mormonism, an implausible, mysterious and ominous religion to outsiders, which Fales portrays alternately with affection and contempt.

The trim and softly handsome

performer arrives on stage in the Mormon uniform of suit, white shirt, tie, and beaming smile. Before the 90-minute show is over, he will have shed everything from waist up, revealing a manicured torso accented with leather armbands and a couple of tattoos.

It's a sexy sight, at least at first, as the divorced, excommunicated father of two young children throws himself into the fleshpots of Manhattan. But drugs and casual sex can't compete with the "hugging time" he left behind in Salt Lake City, and the titular confessional aspect of the piece is another part of an unfinished journey.

Of course, many married men with children have owned up to their gayness and gone on to lead contented lives. But, in addition to the Mormon angle, there is another intriguing twist to Fales' story. It turns out that his former father-in-law was also a Mormon who left suburbia for a gay life in the Castro, a journey made famous when his wife wrote a book about their divorce, his battle with

AIDS, and her caretaking role during his last days. It was history repeating itself in the next generation of the same family.

Fales' approach is conversational, though the effort to make it seem spontaneous can work against that desired effect. Still, there is a knowingness that Fales employs whenever his onstage persona threatens to become too sanctimonious. During his description of his impassioned presentation before the church elders considering his excommunication, he is wounded when one of the jurors dozes off. And also surprised, he said, "because I am theatrical." Even in this somber setting, at least a part of Fales sees himself as a performer putting on a show.

A vintage tape-recording of Fales performing an improvised song as a youngster opens the show, revealing an early propensity for the spotlight, although another recording of him breaking into tears while singing at a cousin's funeral seems more about showing off a dramatic sen-

sitivity than adding anything to the story at hand.

But when Fales sings live, he reveals a fine voice in several songs, including a self-penned paean to Utah that is sappy uplifting until he douses it with a verbal bucket of cold water. These clever reversals, creating expectations that he upends, add facets to a story that is on its way to becoming a small gem. ▼

Confessions of a Mormon Boy will run at the New Conservatory Theatre Center through Aug. 25. Tickets are \$18-\$28. Call 861-8972.



Fales: shedding the uniform.

Afterparty in the afterlife

'Carved in Stone' rubs shoulders with fame

by Richard Dodds

In *Carved in Stone*, life after death isn't all that different from life before death. To kill time, of which there is an ample supply, the inhabitants of this netherworld read books, play cards, trade banter, and eagerly await cocktail hour. If this seems a rather mundane view of eternity, consider that the living dead in this particular corner of Elysian Fields include Tennessee Williams, Truman Capote, Oscar Wilde, and Quentin Crisp.

Is this heaven or hell? Well, a young straight writer who finds himself sharing the tastefully appointed lounge has to wonder, as these iconoclastic queens flirt with him before attacking him for the high sin of plagiarism. But it can't be hell, Tennessee Williams points out, because it comes with a fully stocked bar.

Jeffrey Hartgraves, who adroitly plays Williams, is also the author of this imaginative and literate exploration of the quick-sketch assumptions we make about not only the famous, but anyone who passes through our judgmental radar. That's the message, but of course the fun is in bringing these indiscreetly gay trailblazers together. They gleefully nuzzle each other until the newcomer gives them something to unite against.

There is considerable humor as the idiosyncrasies of this four-some both clash and mesh, and Hartgraves has provided an extra layer of comic relief with cameo appearances by Bette Davis, Judy Garland, William Shakespeare, Alice B. Toklas, and Gertrude Stein. At most, these moments offer only a hazy relevance to the main proceedings, but there's no



Cast of *Carved in Stone*: bringing indiscreetly gay trailblazers together.

denying that they also provide respite from discussions that can occasionally become dry.

Independently produced at the Eureka Theatre, *Carved in Stone* arrives with a touch of professional class, from a slick marketing campaign to the Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired set by Stephen Ritchings. Its credibility is further ratcheted up by the presence of director John Fisher, who makes good use of his talent at allowing camp and gravity to productively coexist.

The cast is also an accomplished lot, with playwright Hartgraves, as Williams, the best at suggesting a character of the proper deportment, but without reaching for impersonation. That duty rightly falls to Matthew Martin, who gives us his brashly drawn caricatures of Garland, Davis, and Stein, with 'Drew Todd in a series of less-flashy compan-

ion roles.

Among the others, Matt Wein-er is fine at tossing off Wilde's epigrams, P.A. Cooley offers a variation on his petulant stage persona as Capote, and Leon Acord finds a dignity in Crisp, even if some of Crisp's magisterial fragility is missing. As the newly arrived writer, David Tenenbaum displays considerable acting chops that sometimes can lead him to histrionic intensity.

To paraphrase the briefly appearing Shakespeare, *Carved in Stone*, at 90 minutes, spends just enough time strutting and fretting its time upon the stage. It is 90 minutes well spent. ▼

Carved in Stone will run at the Eureka Theatre through Aug. 31. Tickets are \$17-\$20. Call 778-4077.

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Bell's on his toes

And so is Piotr: Beethoven, Mozart concertos out on CD

by Tim Pfaff

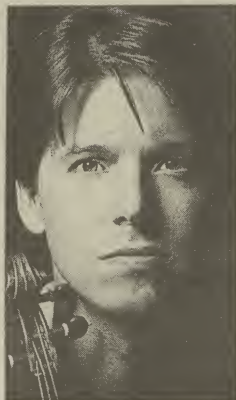
Given the very real crisis in the classical recording industry — which significantly predates the problems on Wall Street but may not postdate them — it says a lot that Sony Classical has allowed Joshua Bell to record the Beethoven Violin Concerto less than a year after one of its other artists, the younger but no less brilliant Hilary Hahn, released such a fine version. Whatever Sony's reasons, Bell's new CD, which also includes his third recording of the Mendelssohn Concerto (he made his first at 12), is eminently self-justifying, and probably will sell well on the basis of its cover art alone.

Classical music's Tom Cruise may not, like his celluloid counterpart, be able to call any project he wants, but his Sony contract

has allowed him some chances to stretch. None has proved a mistake (way more than Cruise can claim), and this return to his classical roots is as welcome as sunshine on a San Francisco summer day. One key to its success is the partnership with the Camerata Salzburg, under conductor Roger Norrington, who can make a mess of just about anything but somehow always seems to get the best out of Bell. Hearing the two concertos with appropriate, slimmed-down (but not thin-sounding) musical forces allows the scores' details to shine, and Norrington does bring a breath of fresh but bracing air to both of these repertory warhorses.

None of that would matter if Bell were not in top form, but he is. His distinctive sweet, singing tone infuses every phrase, but what's more satisfying is his command of the material. This is a classic case of mastery of form being freeing rather than confining, and there's a relish and bite to Bell's playing that secure both of these concertos a place among the preferred recorded versions. The recording also features Bell's own cadenzas, one for the Mendelssohn and one for each of the outer movements of the Beethoven. They turn out to be meaty, thoughtful meditations on the concertos' themes, and they propel the music forward rather than stopping the action, operaria-style, midstream.

It's a pity Hahn didn't receive similar support in her most recent recording, of the Brahms and Stravinsky concertos, with the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields under (the preposition



Bell is currently in top form.

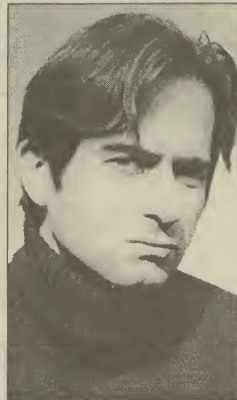
has seldom seemed so apt) Neville Marriner. As always, Hahn has plenty to say about the music, but the orchestra and conducting are so completely wrong that it's as if she's playing in a straitjacket. For the Brahms, a big-orchestra concerto if ever there was one, Sony would have done as well to hire the Beverly Hills High Band and (possibly) saved a penny in the bargain. By the time you've slogged through the pallid introduction to the Brahms, you wouldn't care if Christ came down from the cross to play the concerto. Hahn doesn't even get to come down, though you can sense her struggling to.

Interestingly, Bell had the same problems with his Brahms, back in his London Records days, and it's probably his biggest flop

on CD, too. Among the young-uns in this particular repertory, the winner remains Maxim Vengerov, who has recorded both the Brahms and the Stravinsky in timeless readings, on two different CDs on two different labels, but worth the double outlay.

Top drawer

When I saw Sony's new Edgar Meyer CD, of concertos by Meyer and Giovanni Bottesini — and Bell and cellist Yo-Yo Ma making guest appearances — I feared another one of the Sony "boys'-night-out" recordings that have not been among the label's enduring glories. But no sooner was the CD spinning than I recognized the Meyer recording I've been waiting for. Despite some strong advocacy from string-playing colleagues (including Hahn), I've never quite seen the point of string-bass-player Meyer's compositions (though his bass playing is indisputably top-drawer). Both of his pieces on this new CD, his Double Concerto for Cello and Bass (with Ma) and his Concerto in D for Double Bass, are absorbing, satisfying works that seize your attention the first time around, make you want to hear them again, and then richly reward you for your trouble. They have their jazzy, get-a-load-of-this moments, but they're serious pieces that integrate those elements adroitly into essentially sober music of depth and more than a little sadness. The Bottesini showpieces are good fun, and provide a welcome balance. Hugh Wolff and his St. Paul Chamber Orchestra add characteristically acute support.



Anderszewski: muscular Mozart.

Polish pianist Piotr Anderszewski joins the ranks of player-composers with his brilliant new Virgin Classics recording of the Mozart Concertos in C Minor and C Major, for which he also supplies all the cadenzas — and conducts, superbly, the Sinfonia Varsovia. You may not agree with every musical decision this remarkable musician makes, but the better news is that he makes so many in music that lesser (and more famous) artists glibly throw away. Anderszewski's is muscular, vaulting Mozart that never settles for formula. The cadenzas are, compositionally, denser and more demanding than Bell's, but they illuminate the music while completely shunning showing off for its own sake. This is clearly a pianist to watch — and you surely won't mind watching. ▼

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Italian aces

by Jason Serinus

Italian Opera Arias: Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi, Puccini
Olga Makarina, soprano
(Romeo Records)

As Sills steps down as Chairperson of Lincoln Center, and Caballé resurfaces in Europe to offer glimpses of her fading gifts, the unfortunately named Olga Makarina, a student of definitely retired Renata Scotti to who has sung at NYCO and the Met, delivers a debut recital that could serve as a bid for the title of All-Purpose Soprano of the Decade. While she does not efface memories of others who have excelled in her chosen repertoire, Makarina offers solid, satisfying performances with a fine helping of vocal beauty.

The soprano begins with "Eccomi in lieta vеста... O quante volte," an exquisite recitative and aria from the first act of Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*. The voice is lovely, the ritards sensible, the sentiment appropriate for conveying Juliette's longing for her Romeo. Though the rendition lacks the poignancy and heart-shattering shimmer of Sills' rare live 1968 Köln performance (last available on Arkadia), it remains the most satisfying performance on the disc.

The recital proceeds without surprises. The bright coloratura

gem, "O luce di quest'anima" from the first act of Donizetti's *Linda di Chamounix*, offers fine coloratura and a strong if only briefly held high E, but lacks the lightness, buoyancy, speed, and thrilling conclusion that Sills and Sutherland brought to this music. The aria and cabaletta from Act II of Verdi's *Luisa Miller* demands a heavier voice and more interpretive nuance in the cabaletta; "Qui la voce sua soave... vien diletto" from Bellini's *I Puritani* leaves Callas, Sutherland, and (way back) Olympia Boronat unchallenged; the Willow Song and Ave Maria from Verdi's *Otello*, while quite beautiful, lack the last ounce of pathos necessary to make music so heartbreaking; and the "Casta Diva" from Bellini's *Norma* leaves one praying, not to the goddess, but for Callas, Ponselle, or Gheorghiu (a soprano currently in her prime). Similar comments apply to the expected arias from Bellini's *La Sonnambula*, and Verdi's *La Traviata*; each lacks the ultimate brilliance and interpretive insight that separate the very good from the truly great.

Most disappointing are "Regnana nel silenzio... quando, rapito in estasi" from Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, which lacks the imagination and vocal magnificence that Sills (whose treasurable complete commercial recording has recently been reissued on Westminster) and



Soprano Olga Makarina: solid.

Sutherland brought to the role; and an unidiomatic "O mio babbino caro" from Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, which demands a fuller lower range and greater arching lyricism than Makarina provides.

Given the merely dutiful accompaniment provided by the St. Petersburg Radio and Television Orchestra conducted by Stanislav Gorkovenko, one wonders what Makarina can accomplish with a strong conductor such as Bonynge or Pappano. Coming later this year is an all-Mozart disc featuring "Exsultate, Jubilate," three concert arias, and four arias from *Don Giovanni* and *Le nozze di Figaro*. Perhaps in Mozart's far more classic vocal line, the soprano will truly shine. Available from www.qualiton.com. ▼

FILM

On the lam from Wal-Mart

Jennifer Aniston is 'The Good Girl'

by David Lamble

As a girl, you see the world as a giant candy store, but later, as a small prison, and you're on Death Row." As we meet Justine (a nice change of pace for *Friends*' Jennifer Aniston), she's 30, the candy jar is empty, and the prison has a name, Retail Rodeo, a small-town variety store that comes off as an anti-Wal-Mart parody, with clerks who mutter curses when they're not openly mocking the customers. We never catch Justine working. She alternates getting bad fashion advice from co-worker Cheryl (Zooey Deschanel), being chastised for "cheese in your pizza" from a vegan colleague, Gwen (Deborah Rush), and staring out at the scenery.

Also in Justine's life: a 20ish clerk named Holden (Jake Gyllenhaal), who confesses to a literary lust for Salinger, and that his "slave name" is the more prosaic Tom. With bad posture, a three-day beard growth, and dark, saucer-sized bedroom eyes, Gyllenhaal gives Holden's country Caulfield a claim on our hearts, reprising the mood-shifting pathos of his troubled teen in last year's cult hit, *Donnie Darko*, which put him on the indie star map as a Nick Cage for the '00s. Justine has a way with words, especially when they're directed at Holden. "Your lips are real pouty like a woman," she purrs when they finally get some cheap motel sack-time.

Justine and Holden radiate the out-of-kilter looniness we love in film noir couples on the lam. It's the world they're on the lam from that starts to be a little off-putting. If screenwriter Mike White's first film (also directed by Miguel Arteta), *Chuck & Buck*, provided the giddy discomfort we associate with reading a best friend's diary, far too much of *The Good Girl* plays like a sophomore jinx effort from a writer who's acquired the habit of creating bad jokes at the expense of his characters.

Monster mash

Justine needs Holden because Holden replaces time spent with hubby Phil, the gifted character actor John C. Reilly, whose lumpy amiability here suggests a human version of a bowl of mashed potatoes. Phil and buddy Bubba (Tim Blake Nelson) paint houses by day, get stoned at night, and make Justine almost physically ill just by breathing the same air. As Justine says to Holden about Phil, "He's a pig. He talks, but he doesn't think." If Barbara Stanwyck had uttered this line, Phil would be a dead man, and we'd be in for a sassy if bumpy ride. But the fly in this ointment is not lust, greed or blackmail, but rather the bitter-beer face of soured male-bonding.

Bubba confronts Justine about Holden, and rather than squealing to Phil, he asks for sex as payback. When a writer condescends to his characters, it's dangerous to give one of them the godlike gift of narration, but that's what White does for Justine, as she squirms in Bubba's shack, listening to his stupid dog, and gazing at a large Confederate flag stapled to the



Jennifer Aniston as Justine, a prisoner of the Retail Rodeo.

wall. "Bubba hated me for poisoning the well of his idealism that he had drunk from. Phil was no god, just a cuckold and a fool, and that was beautiful."

White has written himself into a hole, placing the Good Girl (somebody actually calls her that to her face) uncomfortably between the fabulous surrealism of the Coen brothers' *Raising Arizona* and the grounded comedy-drama of Kenneth Lonergan's *You Can Count on Me*. When Bubba yells, "If I was a woman, I'd be a lesbian slut," we cringe not only because the line was showing its

age at gay comedy open mike a decade ago, but because its utterance completes our sense that Bubba is a fool and unworthy of affecting Justine's and Holden's fate. Faced with an idiot stoner who invades their bathroom as she's discovering if she's pregnant with a baby Phil, Justine gives a heartfelt reason why the boy-man Holden is attractive despite his delusions. "I was looking at you in the store, and I like the way you kept to yourself." ▼

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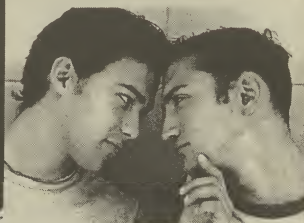
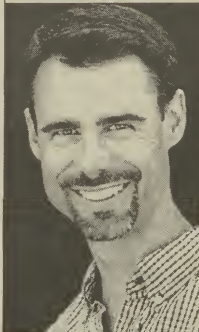
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Reality bites, again and again

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Are we over reality TV yet? What is it about America that we have to super-size everything? *The Real World* was fun for the first 100 seasons, *Survivor* was great the first time out, and we admit we couldn't stop watching the train wreck that was the first round of *Big Brother*. Like everyone else in America, we've been mesmerized by *American Idol* and the foul-mouthed Osbournes (even if we are brutally disappointed that no bat-eating goes on at home), but now there is simply too much of this faux reality on TV, and we are well and truly over the whole concept. So much so that we're ready to watch reruns of *Bewitched* and *Gilligan's Island* on Nick at Night, rather than face another evening of *Dog Eat Dog* or *Fear Factor*. Remember when people thought eating earthworms as if they were spaghetti was disgusting and gross?

But it was El's *The Anna Nicole Show* and Fox's *30 Seconds to Fame* which may have pushed us completely over the edge. We admit Anna Nicole, with her pansexual lifestyle and larger-than-life everything (she's so like a John Waters character we really wonder why he hasn't put her in a film yet, but perhaps it's because he's gotten so much more conservative since his Divine days), is somewhat of a guilty pleasure. But *The Anna Nicole Show* is kind of like Divine meets Mae West, with some *Sex in the City* thrown in. Which means one needs a plethora of *Cosmos* with a chaser of Xanax to make it palatable. Let's face it, people degrading themselves for money is sordid, and watching it makes one complicitous in something distinctly unsavory.

Some people predicted that after 9-11 there would be little interest in reality TV, that the hyperreality of 9-11 and its aftermath would quench the thirst for

that sort of thing. But the opposite has proven true: We are even more enamored of the reality concept than ever.

Of course, as with all of TV, there are gradations of reality TV, and this summer's fare has definitely laid out all the variables. PBS did *Frontier House*, a variation on their 1900 *House* from several seasons ago, melding historical content with reality TV for the true PBS experience: educational voyeurism. ABC did the fabulously compelling *Houston Medical*, and NBC's *Law & Order* franchise has presented *Crime & Punishment*, both of which are reality TV for the discerning voyeur. But ABC has followed *HM* with *ICU*, true stories from the Arkansas Children's Hospital. Let us just say that after last week's premiere, we will not be watching again. It's difficult to imagine sustaining an appetite for watching children suffer week after week.

Dog world

And therein lies the reality problem. Last season's Fox show *Temptation Island* hit a new low of sleaze factor with its attempts to break up perfectly happy couples by having other people seduce them. The *Big Brother*, *Mole* and *Survivor* franchises all pit people against each other in ways that make *Lord of the Flies* look like a day at the beach. *Fear Factor*, *American Idol*, *30 Seconds to Fame*, *Dog Eat Dog*, *Spy TV*, *Weakest Link* and other reality "competitions" are predicated on humiliation. Why exactly are we all participating? Why are these shows topping the ratings charts? What's wrong with good, old-fashioned storytelling? Or sharp political and social commentary? Dramas like *NYPD Blue*, *The West Wing*, *ER* and all the *Law & Order* panoply are compelling because

the actors (remember them?) bring their characters (remember them?) to life, and the writing is superb. These shows are all reality-based in the sense that they depict real life in a fictionalized fashion, but at their best they also impel the viewer to consider the issues they address, from racism, sexism and homophobia to the impact of poverty, crime or illness on whole segments of the population.

There is plenty of good escapist TV as well. Sitcoms like *Will & Grace*, *Frasier* and *Spin City* are well-written and consistently hilarious. Sci-fi dramas like the *Star Trek* franchise, the excellent *Buffey*, *The Vampire Slayer*, *Angel* and *X-Files* provide escape into other dimensions, combined with superb acting and fine writing.

The fact is we need to see fewer real people on TV, and more fictional characters predicated on real people. That's what TV is supposed to be: theatre, not the side-show at the circus in which people vie to be the ones to degrade themselves most repulsively in front of millions of viewers.

Reality TV and its compadre, the TV talk show, another venue for telling all, have turned voyeurism into a game. We caught a particularly sleazy episode of the *Maury Povich* show the other day which featured the audience attempting to determine the gender of 10 people dressed as women. Almost to a one, the audience guessed wrong, making the women-born-women feel insulted and the transvestite men smug. Icky, icky, icky.

Ray Bradbury's award-winning novel *Fahrenheit 451* depict-

ed a reality-TV world like the one in which we now live; 40 years ago when he wrote it, it was sci-fiction, and the world he detailed was morally bankrupt and grotesque. Now it's, well, reality.

Reality shows allow us to participate in the public humiliation of other people without suffering any consequences. They also inure us to real suffering by other people by quantifying all pain as like. Discovering your husband is sleeping with your brother and being told on national TV may indeed be painful, but it is not the same as having one's child killed by a pedophile, nor is it comparable to struggling with a life-threatening illness. But reality TV melds all these things together so they become indecipherable from each other. Repetition of the images and hearing the same story told in a variety of ways by a range of players further serve to distance us from real emotional response. The first few times we witnessed the planes bisecting the World Trade Center towers it was horrifying, but with each successive viewing it became less startling, less painful to see. Watch another person humiliated and degraded and empathize with them, and the experience is unpleasant; one feels as if one is also experiencing the degradation. But view without empathy and the acts become meaningless. And we risk losing our ability to empathize altogether.

Memento mori

Some realities never cease to be painful. ABC news commentator Cokie Roberts announced last week that she had just undergone a lumpectomy for breast cancer and was embarking on chemotherapy and radiation this week. Roberts' sister, Barbara Sigmond, mayor of Princeton, New Jersey, died several years ago from eye cancer, and Roberts' co-an-

chor on *This Week*, Sam Donaldson, has been battling prostate cancer for some time.

Josh Ryan Evans, the comic genius who played the doll-brought-to-life Timmy on NBC's campy soap-opera *Passions*, died suddenly last week during surgery. Evans, 20, suffered from a rare form of dwarfism which also impacted his heart. The actor had received an Emmy nod last season, as well as walking away with a *Soap Opera Digest* award. Ironically (or eerily, as John Edwards would say), Evans died the same day that his character died on screen. Evans struggled all his life with massive health problems, but was stoic and never failed to charm both audience and coworkers.

Finally, Michael C. Hall, Emmy-nominated star of HBO's quirky black comedy *Six Feet Under*, plays one of the best queer characters on TV. The utterly charming and self-deprecating actor appeared on ABC's *The View* last week, where he regaled the *View* girls with tales of his "relationship" with his onscreen lover, Matthew St. Patrick. Hall noted that the handsome, hunky African American actor "is a good kisser," but added that St. Patrick has a mustache now, and it's "taking some getting used to." Hall also revealed that the first love scene he'd ever done onscreen with anyone was with St. Patrick. Hall, recently married to an actress he met while auditioning for *Rent* (she got the job, he didn't), asserted how thrilled he was with his *Six Feet Under* role, and added that he neither feels he's being typecast as a gay actor nor cares if he is. What is important to him, he said, is that his relationship onscreen with St. Patrick and the love scenes look "really real."

Are there more where he came from? Stay tuned. ▼



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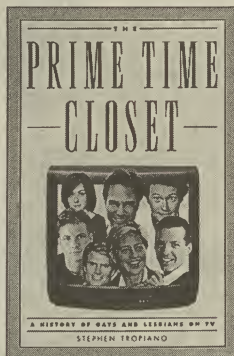
Cleaning out the prime-time closet

by Joe E. Jeffreys

It's the TV Guide for programming with gay and lesbian content. Stephen Tropiano's encyclopedic *The Prime Time Closet: A History of Gays and Lesbians on TV* (Applause Books) offers an eye-opening survey and appraisal of television programs over the past nearly 50 years with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender characters or plot lines.

For the past decade Tropiano, 40, sought out, videotaped and cataloged every television episode or series with gay content he could find, and built a tremendous database of examples from the early 1950s to the present day.

Tropiano, who saw author and activist Vito Russo speak when he was in college, says that his book was inspired by Russo's similarly groundbreaking *The Celluloid Closet*, one of the first books providing a historical survey and critique of films with gay and lesbian content. "Russo was the generation ahead of me," says Tropiano, "and for many of my friends his age, film was the way they got most of their messages. For my



generation, it was television."

Tropiano's book divides television shows into genres, and then chronologically considers individual episodes of series with gay themes or characters, or entire series with such content, like *My So-Called Life* or *Will & Grace*. While the author readily admits that his book is not comprehensive, it covers an astonishingly large array. For each example, he outlines the basic plot, places the concerns or issues it raises into a

larger historical context, and evaluates whether the representation sends a positive or negative message.

Tropiano lives in West Hollywood with his partner of the last 15 years, screenwriter Steven Ginsberg, and says that the recent arrival and success of shows like *Queer as Folk* aimed primarily at a gay audience signal a change. "Most of the material I discovered while looking for examples of homosexuality on TV was geared toward a heterosexual audience and trying to educate them." He is encouraged by talk about an exclusively gay cable channel, and feels that "it's time, and could be great if it knows its audience and what it is that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people feel is missing from television."

Following in Russo's footsteps, Tropiano travels the country promoting his book with a talk accompanied by clips from his vast video archive. He says that his favorite television shows are domestic dramas like *Northern Exposure* and *thirtysomething*, and adds, "I don't watch as much television as people might think." ▼

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Possessing Gwyneth, Jennifer & Neil

A celebration of Victorian bisexuality and poetry in 'Possession'

by Brandon Judell

On September 28, Gwyneth Paltrow turns 30. "You had to bring it up," the lovely blonde thespian playfully grimaces in Manhattan's Regency Hotel. "I've had a really extraordinary life so far. I mean, my twenties have been action-packed. I think I've lived more in my twenties than most people live in their lifetime. In a way, I'm sad to let go of it. Yet in a way, I really am relieved to let go of it, and to sort of enter into the next phase of my life. See how my life is as a woman."

Taking of being a woman, what does Gwyneth feel about her lesbian following? "I have one?" she gleams. "I love it. Is that true? Oh, my gosh! That's great. Do you know I'm attached to *The Passion*, a book by Jeanette Winterson. Kasi Lemmons [director of *Eve's Bayou*] and I are supposed to do it for Miramax, but it's like in classic Miramax development hell, and I don't know when we're going to make it. But I play a lesbian in that, a woman who falls in love with this French sort of countess, and I get my heart broken by her. And there's a really great love scene in it, too," she giggles. "Well, I won't go into that now."

Which is just as well, since Paltrow, Jennifer Ehle, and director Neil LaBute are in town to push *Possession*, an adaptation of A.S. Byatt's award-winning novel.

Here's a high romance about two sets of lovers in two time periods. In the modern era in London, a hunky academic with a washboard stomach, Roland Michell (Aaron Eckhart), comes across a shocking letter by the renowned Victorian poet Randolph Henry Ash (Jeremy Northam). The missive implies that Ash once had an affair with a mystery woman. His whole reputation has spun around his faithfulness to his wife. After some research, Michell believes the mystery woman is none other than a fellow Victorian poet, Christabel LaMotte (Ehle). Impossible, argues Professor of Gender Studies and LaMotte expert Maud Bailey (Paltrow). LaMotte was a lesbian.

Well, the two team up to dig up the truth, which has some tragic consequences. Yet everyone with the exception of lesbian separatists and Charlton Heston will have trouble not getting enraptured by this literary mystery.

Carried away

Even director LaBute, who's forged a reputation for much more cynical showpieces like *In the Company of Men* and *Your Friends and Neighbors*, got carried away by the story.

"I guess I'm just a romantic cuss," LaBute explains. "It probably just shows more of where my interests lie as a reader and as a director, more than as a writer. I read *Possession* when I was just a student, who said, 'Wow! I love this.' So I'm probably not as romantic as the movie itself, and I'm not as cynical as I've been accused. I'm somewhere comfortably in-between."

What about the beautiful, mature scenes of lesbian love you filmed? "I dig lesbians. Why do you think the scenes are so good?" LaBute jokes. "But really, it's a relationship. I think the one in *Your Friends and Neighbors* is every bit

as mature with Catherine Keener and Nastassia Kinski. Relationships are just plain tough. People getting together and being vulnerable enough to live together. It's hard enough to work with people. But then when it becomes, 'Oh, you're coming back to the house with me, too, are you? And staying?' Hmmm. Okay, that's kind of an encroachment on the cable box."

"Some things are hard to say," LaBute continues, "and then to say them on screen, with 30 people standing around waiting for lunch, makes any relationship on screen hard to do. But Jennifer and Lena Headey, who plays Blanche, knew there were not going to be some kind of gratuitous scenes that weren't in the book. No nude sunbathing."

Ehle, who won a Best Actress Tony Award for her performance in Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing* two years ago, was excited that she, too, might gain a lesbian cult from playing the bisexual Christabel.

"Oh, really!" she smiles with British restraint.



Aaron Eckhart and Gwyneth Paltrow in Neil LaBute's *Possession*.

Did Ehle have to do any same-sex research, or have her new husband a wig?

"No, I didn't really do that or do much research at all. I read some [Christina] Rossetti, and I knew some Dickinson already.

But I personally don't know how to use all the research that everyone says they always do and how to use it in my scenes."

As for finding any difference between portraying a lesbian and a heterosexual, Ehle shrugged.

"In the book, the relationship with Blanche is a little bit more ambiguous than I think it comes across in the film. To me, it's not ambiguous. I have no doubt that they were lovers. But it's like playing anyone's lover. It didn't seem different because they were both women or any of that, because their relationship seems to have very clear dynamics. Blanche is needier. Perhaps the sexual side of the relationship and the emotional side mean more to her than to Christabel. Christabel loves Blanche dearly, but maybe she isn't in love with her. There was plenty to play in there without thinking, 'Oh, they're two women.'"

But let's say this film is a hit and you do become a lesbian icon. Would you consider riding on a float in the San Francisco Gay Pride Parade, possibly in a gigantic Victorian skirt that billows over the whole vehicle?

"I don't know. Maybe," Ehle laughs. "I can't imagine that would happen. But it sounds nice. In fact, it sounds like you might want to do it yourself." ▼

Doomed romance

Influential 'Pépé le Moko' at the Castro Theatre

by Tavo Amador

The movies' fatalistic romantic leading man, whose cynical exterior hides an idealistic soul, is associated with Humphrey Bogart. But the character was born with Jean Gabin's *Pépé le Moko* in Julien Duvivier's 1937 French film, beautifully restored for its August 16-22 run at the Castro Theatre.

Pépé is a bank robber hunted by the police. He is safe only in Algiers' Casbah. There, in its maze of streets and alleys, he reigns like a petty, natty monarch. His girlfriend, Ines (Line Noro), says, "They want to arrest you, but you're already under arrest." *Pépé* dreams of returning to Paris, but doesn't dare risk it.

When he spots the chic, bejeweled Gaby (Mireille Balin), who is clearly slumming, erotic tension sets in. She is the mistress of a businessman, who has given her the diamonds she wears so casually. Gaby and *Pépé* have a hauntingly tender tryst, during which they memorably recite the stops on the Paris Metro.

The police are determined to capture *Pépé*, who is friendly with Inspector Slimane (Lucas Griloux). The trap they set involves *Pépé*'s boyish protégé, Pierrot (Gilbert Gil). It fails, but Pierrot dies. Slimane realizes he has a better chance to capture *Pépé* by using Gaby. The romance ends tragically, but Slimane fails to get his man.

The performances are superb. Gabin's large-eyed, thin-lipped face and taut, stocky body somehow make *Pépé* sexy. Balin, with her Dietrich-like eyebrows, is believably drawn to him. Also wonderful is the undercurrent of Mediterranean homoeroticism running through the film: *Pépé*'s tender affection for Pierrot, and Slimane's lingo-like obsession with *Pépé*, who flirts with him, are presented naturally. French *chanteuse*

Frehel has a memorable scene reminiscing about her youth by listening to records made when she reigned over Parisian music halls. Marcel Dalio is excellent as the traitorous "Ayrah."

Hollywood noticed: In 1938, director John Cromwell remade *Pépé*, nearly shot for shot, as *Algiers*, starring Charles Boyer and Hedy Lamarr. In 1941's *The Maltese Falcon*, John Huston had the elevator gates frame Mary Astor's face like bars in a jail cell during her last scene — exactly as Duvivier ends *Pépé*. And Bogart's Rick in *Casablanca* (1943), including his relationship with Claude Rains' Police Chief Louis Reynard, owes much to *Pépé*, which was not shown in America until 1941. *Casablanca* also cast Dalio as Rick's all-seeing croupier.

This revival is not to be missed. ▼



Jean Gabin as *Pépé le Moko* in Julien Duvivier's French gangster classic.

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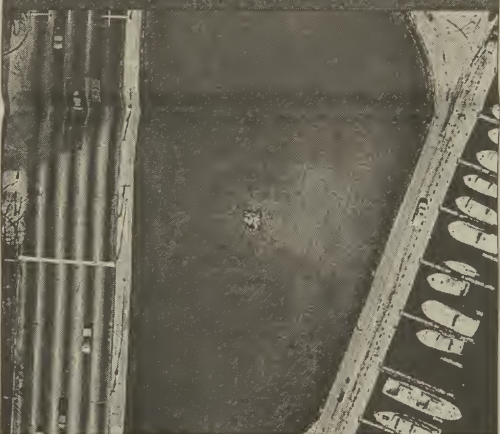
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Man on lawn in Chicago, distance increasing exponentially; from Ray and Charles Eames' 1977 short film, *Powers of Ten*.

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Size matters

Scaling 'Powers of Ten' at Academy of Sci.

by Michael McDonagh

Not many science exhibits are inspired by a film. But the California Academy of Science's current show, *Powers of Ten*, celebrates the discoveries made in Ray and Charles Eames' much-seen 1977 short of the same name. Though the pair (she lived from 1912-'88, he from '07-'78) are best known for their revolutionary bent-plywood chairs and the molded plastic ones you can't escape at any airport on the planet, they also made over 100 short films on a wide variety of subjects, ranging from tops and toy trains to one about a residence they designed for themselves in Pacific Palisades, California. *House After Five Years of Living* (1955) has a sweetly intimate score by the great film composer Elmer Bernstein, who's written music for many of their pictures, including *Powers of Ten*.

Powers of Ten, which bears the subtitle, "A Film Dealing with the Relative Size of Things in the Universe and the Effect of Adding Another Zero," is exactly what this show is about, and the Academy had the smart idea of

projecting it on the wall when you walk in, screening continuously.

But then you realize that this exhibit differs from the film in a simple but basic way — the picture is an organized experience, while one's way of looking at the show isn't. Obviously, one can view each object in a measured way, but you're also free to choose what catches your fancy, and ignore what doesn't. There's a lot to pick and choose from — a 4-billion-year-old meteorite; the largest and smallest seeds in the world; Foucault's pendulum, slowly, inevitably moving along with the Earth; a huge, textured globe; Darwin's book *The Origin of the Species*; and many stills from the film, including those which show stars and galaxies, and point up the huge differences between phenomena in terms of size and time.

One still, at the scale of 10-to-the-26th-power meters — a distance the equivalent of 10 billion light-years away — occupies a frame 1-meter square; and the amount of time it takes light to travel this far is about the age of the universe we know. So both the film and the show of *Powers of Ten* let you experience both the

cosmic and the intimate scale of things, like the picture's startlingly quick zoom into the hand of the man picnicking on a lawn near Lake Michigan, in Chicago.

After entering his hand, we see even smaller things: a view of atoms, and realities which are even more infinitesimal, and barely perceptible, like quarks. One learns that everything in the universe is built up from small things which grow progressively grander, and that both small and large are awesome in their own special ways. This isn't a visceral show, but an intellectual one that gives much food for thought.

Powers of Ten was organized by the Eames' grandson Eames Demetrios, who as a child was an active volunteer at the Academy, which makes it both a family affair and an affectionate tribute. There are also several interactive parts to the show. You can sit in any of the classic Eames chairs on the side of the main gallery, and you can pick whichever one you like. ▼

Powers of Ten runs through Jan. 5, 2003. Info: (415) 750-7145, or www.calacademy.org.

John Deakin

◀ Arts cover

have existed before and has not survived into the theme-parked present. Its tawdriness remains vivid in Deakin's images.

Candid camera

Deakin traded on his reputation as a one-time *Vogue* fashion photographer, although he was fired twice from the magazine because of his lack of discipline. But he was never interested in fashion or the *belle monde*. A man of his times — he was a contemporary of Giacometti and Sartre as well as Bacon — it was the human condition that attracted him, and even at *Vogue* he was noted for his portraits. So portraiture occupies an equal and superior part of this book ostensibly dedicated to street photography. Bacon said that his friend took the best portraits since Nadar and Julia Margaret Cameron. Both the famous and the little-known fill his rogue's gallery. Lucian Freud, Bacon and his ill-fated lover George Dyer, Frank Auerbach, Michael Andrews, future pillars of the so-called School of London — all here young and scarily sexy — look at his camera as at an attacking animal.

The exception is Bacon, who is so comfortable with his fellow reprobate that he even cracks a smile in one shot. Bacon famously put his trust in the wrong fellow, however. It was Deakin to whom he assigned the task of keeping Dyer out of trouble, meaning away from liquor and drugs, on the occasion of Bacon's important Paris retrospective. Deakin took a walk instead, revisiting old haunts, Dyer OD'd, and all Bacon got out of it was one of his greatest paintings.

Deakin's gritty, unglamorous portraits have been described as mugshots, and in them all his subjects appear to be thugs, guilty of the crime of being alive. He favors taking pictures of friends literally up against the wall, where



John Deakin, "Flags of the Allies, graffiti, Paris, 1950s."

they appear ready for the firing squad.

The pictures in the book were saved from Deakin's squalid rooms by a friend after his death. Otherwise, like his paintings and sculptures, they might have been thrown out into the street. But enough of his work survives to give a sense of his broad photographic interests, which included tattooed sailors, drag queens, graffiti and old streets in Paris and Rome, as well as in London. The photographs are divided into three parts, each devoted to one of the cities he at various times inhabited. Although the pictures of

Paris and Rome are characteristic, transcending the touristic or merely picturesque, they lack the knowingness he brought to his photographs of London.

Even at his best, Deakin was not what we would call a great photographer, but his London pictures are important documents of a time and a place undergoing radical self-redefinition. Deakin and his friends, a bunch of queers and drunks, were among those most responsible for originating a complex of attitudes that allowed the even more radical changes that took over London in the 1960s space to flourish. ▼

DVD & ART

Strange and stranger

Edgar G. Ulmer's schlock film 'Strange Illusion' falls flat on disc

by Matthew Kennedy

Like schlock as much as the next guy. Movie entertainment doesn't get much better than *Valley of the Dolls* or *Return to Peyton Place*. But Edgar G. Ulmer's *Strange Illusion*, a low-budget 1945 noirish thriller loosely inspired by *Hamlet*, is just plain tedious. Clocking in at 85

minutes, it feels much longer than Kenneth Branagh's four-hour adaptation of the same source.

Movies of this rank need theater audiences to feed off their own cult and camp appeal. This is not a flat-out slam of Ulmer. He came from exceptional training, having studied architecture and philosophy in his hometown at Vienna's Academy of Arts and Sciences. He apprenticed with no

less than Max Reinhardt and F. W. Murnau. But he got caught in a vortex of Grade-Z filmmaking that he never escaped. He made so many cheapies in Europe and North America that a complete inventory of his movies is fairly impossible.

Some of his work merits remembering, including the respected horror flick *The Black Cat*. As for *Strange Illusion*, the

curiosity factor wears off early. Likable young man (James Lyndon) suffers from nightmares about his rich and seductive mother (Sally Eilers), his dead father, and mother's creepy new boyfriend (Warren William). Ulmer does what he can with no money and no time. He creates an intermittent mood of unease and dread, but the effort is defeated by mean editing, wobbly sets, and line readings by Eilers that evoke *Divine* without a sense of humor. Certain shots are funny in their obviousness. When mother, her boyfriend and son meet, there's a portrait of dad looming overhead as big as any of the actors. It would have gotten a

big laugh on *The Carol Burnett Show*.

Ulmer has many admirers, including certain French cineastes who helped elevate him to the status of minor auteur. *Strange Illusion* is not without merit, but Ulmer gets cut only so much slack. With the proper resources, he might have been a great director. But what-iffing doesn't do credit to the evidence at hand. DVD maker All Day Entertainment prides itself on selling past oddities, but this dark, grainy print isn't likely to enlarge the Edgar G. Ulmer Fan Club.

Strange Illusion: 85 minutes, black and white, 1945. Available at www.alldayentertainment.com. ▼

Thomas Eakins

◀ Arts cover

in athletic activities such as rowing and baseball, but also in nude wrestling matches, swimming parties and tug-of-war contests. Looking at these photos of active, nude young men, it's easy to understand Whitman's attraction to Eakins' work. (In fact, modern editions of *Leaves of Grass* often use the artist's 1885 painting "Swimming" as a cover illustration.)

As a teacher at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Eakins initially went along with the school's policy of segregated life classes. Men could only model nude for male art students, and females for female students. In his own private studio on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia, however, Eakins could take a freer approach. Eventually, his teaching practices got him into trouble. In 1886, while teaching a class of female painters, Eakins removed the loin cloth of the male model they were painting. The incident caused quite a stir, and one local newspaper referred to the fact that Eakins had exposed his female students to "the absolute male." That's the phrase used as the title for John Esten's new study of Eakins, a slim but handsome volume that focuses on Eakins' studies of the male form (Universe, \$29.95).

Come as you are

In a brief introduction, Esten presents a succinct biography of Eakins' career, describing some-



Eakins, "Wrestlers," 1899, painting from photographs of athletes.

thing of the genesis of Eakins' independent spirit, the exile that this provoked, and the eventual vindication of the artist in the later "rediscovery" of his work. Eakins was a meticulous painter, famous for making detailed studies of the landscapes and bodies that he presents on his canvases. For Eakins, it was a sin to romanticize or idealize an image. He strived for the realism of the everyday, of the thing and person "as they are." Because of this attention to detail, Eakins took many photographs of his nude subjects, made elaborate and scientific photographic studies of the body in motion, and even studied anatomy and dissection at a medical school.

The Absolute Male contains many of the photographs (some published for the first time) that Eakins used as studies for his paintings. There are also photographs of Eakins and his students at work in the studio, painting from nude life models. Though Eakins did not intend these photos to be exhibited, they are of course works of art in themselves.

Looking at the photos, one is struck (as Esten notes in his introduction) with how naturally the young men seem to take to the task of posing nude for the canvas and the camera. They ap-

pear to be not only at ease, but lost in the freedom and enjoyment of the moment. In the 1883 photograph "Students Wrestling," for example, there is nothing strained or false about the posture of the young men as they grapple or watch their companions do so. They smile. They appear eager to take part. In the photo "Seven Male Nudes, Two Boxing" from the same year, the students lounge, seemingly contented and relaxed, as they watch two comrades spar.

The Absolute Male consists mostly of early photographs, but there are some handsome reproductions of Eakins' paintings, particularly of his many pictures of oarsmen. Also included is a reproduction of one of the artist's perspective studies. In one section Esten pairs a photograph of two men wrestling with the painting that it inspired. This pairing demonstrates just how carefully Eakins prepared each canvas. (Interestingly enough, the men in the photograph are nude, but the same subjects, on canvas, are clad in loincloths.) In 1999, Esten published a similar study of another great American painter, John Singer Sargent: *The Male Nudes*. Both the Sargent volume and this new study of Eakins are beautiful books. One hopes that there are more on the horizon. ▼



"Thomas Eakins at about Age Forty," 1880s.

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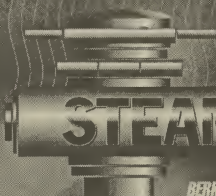
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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



Rusty Hips, Fudgie Frottage and Howie Weenis hold forth at DragStrip's 7th annual SF Drag King Contest.

Xtreme drag

Drag kings and queens give the rest of us queer peons some much-needed color. They were extreme long before the term was adopted by snowboarders, in-line skaters and their ilk, and ya gotta love 'em for it. Forget all the dreary complaints, from the most drab among us, that drag queens and kings deserve to be burned at the stake for tarnishing the power-gay community's carefully groomed Brooks Brothers/Saks Fifth Avenue image. It's all jealousy from dull minds fearful of others having wicked fun in public. If uptight moralizers get their way, fun will have to shut up and stay closeted. As long as finger-pointing, Victorian-minded prudes insist that *their* mode of behavior and appearance is the only *valid* form of expression, well, fun is doomed. Don't let them project their fears on us. We should lead our lives openly, whether we're transnies, tranny chasers, or tranny admirers. (Full disclosure: I've done "serious" drag only a couple of times, but enough to get the full flavor and effect, which was *wow!*)

Which brings me to **DragStrip's 7th Annual "SF Drag King Contest,"** due to take place on Thursday, August 22, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at **Studio Z.tv** (formerly the Transmission Theatre) at 314 11th St. (at Folsom). Producer **Lu Read**, a major force in the San Francisco drag scene, brings an uncommon flair to these affairs. She's been at it a long while, and knows how to pull tricks out of her hat. Toward that end, she scoured the universe in search of quality emcees, and came up with some family jewels: **Leigh Crow**, "kissing as Elvis Herselvis since '89," a dazzling performer in countless musical revues, and star of Transfusion's "Smackdown Wrestling" tournaments; **Rusty Hips**; SF Drag King 2001 **"The Shack,"** **Howie Weenis**, who will pass his crown to this year's winning king. According to his official biography, Weenis is a senior at Jefferson High, president of the Latin Club, newspaper Editor-in-Chief, founder of the Modern Dance Squad, and works the buzzer at basketball games. In other words: a total geek; and **Fudgie Frottage**, the man with "The Biggest Balls in Show Business," who reportedly was discovered by Versace in 1996 "while felching Donatella in a K-Hole, afterwards in his Miami showroom." Heavily influenced by free love in the late '60s and free drugs in the early '70s, Frottage has performed in many states, including ecstasy.

Live muzak will be played by **Frankie Tenderloin & The Rent Boy\$**, the brand new drag king supergroup fronted by no-wave veteran **Annie Toone**. Also on hand will be the **Other Brothers**, a collaboration of multi-culti artists who fall somewhere on the spectrum from masculine female to new transman. DJ Taffy D (a moonlighting Harvey Milk Institute personality) spins '80s, Punk, Rock, Glam and Kitsch.

Judges for the contest (which is open "to anyone who's got the balls to enter") will be **Electro** (SF Drag King 2000), **Skeeter, Lefty Fister** (Mr. Trannyshack 2002), **Anita Cocktail** (Faux Queen 2002), **Daisy Anarchy**, and **Nikki Starr** (Miss Trannyshack '97). ▼

For more details, call 282-5378 or visit www.madkats.com or www.studioZ.tv



Terry Baum takes on the medical establishment in *Waiting for the Podiatrist* at Venue 9. See Tuesday.

Fri 16

Z Space Studio

Opening night: The Playwrights Foundation, under the leadership of Artistic director Amy L. Mueller, celebrates the 25th Annual "Bay Area Playwrights Festival," the outfit that gave up-and-coming playwright Sam Shepard a boost in 1976 when his play was discovered by young director Robert Woodruff's first "New Play Contest." More than a week of readings and special events. Featuring new works by Liz Duffy Adams, Catherine Filloux, Marcus Gardley, Kirsten Greenidge, Brighde Mullins with Walter Kitunda, August Schulenburg, and Mac Wellman. Their works were chosen out of 300 entries. Tonight: Staged Reading of "Eyes of the Heart" by Catherine Filloux, followed by wine reception. \$10 donation (\$55 festival pass good for 7 readings; \$75 includes most special events). 8pm. 1360 Mission St., 3rd floor. Tix/info: 263-3986; www.playwrightsfoundation.org

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Lamplighters Music Theatre presents Gilbert & Sullivan's comic-opera masterpiece "The Pirates of Penzance," full of blushing maidens, lusty sailors, and bumbling policemen. Directed by Christopher Walkey. Baker Peebles conducts the 22-piece Lamplighters orchestra. \$20-\$38. 8pm (2pm Sun.). Thru Aug. 18 (also Aug. 22-24 at Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek; phone 925-943-7469). 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). Tix/info: 978-2787; www.lamplighters.org

Sat 17

Metropolitan Community Church

MCC-SF's Summer Concert Series presents Trio Moderne, with Martha Stoddard on flute, Richard Vaughan on cello, and Timothy Zerlang on piano, playing works by Martinu, von Weber, Barber and Prokofiev. \$10. 8pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: 863-4434.

Women's Building

Radical Women hold their third annual "Fiery Feminist Freedomfest" to

celebrate Women's Rights Day, the anniversary of American women winning the right to vote. Featuring poets Nellie Wong and Merle Woo, rapper JenRO, musicians Michelle Garcia, Faith Petric and belly dancer Karen Chin, all honoring the rich history of the feminist movement and "the feisty resistance of working women against Bush's phony war on 'Terrorism' and his administration's civil rights roll-backs." \$10 donation. Optional sumptuous summer supper with vegetarian option served for \$8.50. 6pm. 3543 18th St. (btwn Valencia & Guerrero). Info: 864-1278.

Z Space Studio

"Bay Area Playwrights Festival" continues with two staged readings: "Dog Act" (at 3pm) by Liz Duffy Adams; and "2 September" (at 8pm) by Mac Wellman. \$10 donation per reading (\$55 festival pass good for 7 readings; \$75 includes most special events). 1360 Mission St., 3rd floor. Tix/info: 263-3986; www.playwrightsfoundation.org

Falkirk Mansion, San Rafael

"Marin Life Premiere Party," the kick-off celebration of "Marin Life," a new program providing social oppor-

tunities, community events and education forums for gay and bisexual men. Education forums include topics that aim to promote sexual and emotional health and prevent the spread of HIV in the community. Under the "Marin Life" umbrella, the program will feature "Marin Life 101" for gay, bi, queer, and questioning men 29 and under; "Entre Hombres," for gay/bi Latinos, and "Marin Life Plus" for HIV+ men. Tonight's party offers dancing, refreshments, and a chance to learn more about the program and meet other Marin men. \$5 donation. 8-11pm. 1408 Mission Ave., at "E" St., San Rafael. Info: Bryan Gardiner, 415-457-2487, ext. 112; email marinlife2002@yahoo.com

SF Russian Center Theater

Mark Paladini presents "Who Murdered Donna Sachet... Again!" It was a hot summer evening... The air was filled with a certain tension... The unsuspecting Ms. Sachet couldn't have known, but suspicious eyes were watching... Waiting... Then they struck! Again! A whodunit comedy benefit for the Positive Resource Center of SF, featuring a cast of zany local personalities, including Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, SFPD Officer Lenny Broberg, and Marlena, Empress of the infamous Marlena's. \$40 reception & show (main floor seating); \$25 show only (balcony seating). Group rates available. 6pm reception; 7pm show. 2460 Sutter St. Tix/info: 1-866-372-6849 (Frantix ticket service); 292-9808; www.2murderdonna.com

Casting @ Great America

Casting call for WB Television's casting dept., for persons ages 12-24 seeking walk-on parts on hit WB shows. Contestants must form a performance team of two persons and perform official skits from www.wb20.com. Presentations may run from one-and-a-half to no more than three minutes. Scoring by a panel of judges based on technique, stage presence, and chemistry between performers. 10am. Showtime Theater, Paramount's Great America. Info: www.wb20.com

Sun 18

DNA Lounge

German post-punk princess Nina Hagen makes a rare appearance in her first San Francisco performance in years. Famed in the '80s for her over-the-top look and unique vocal stylings, her performances are musical roller coasters, full of sudden and dramatic shifts in mood, volume, and phrasing, going from a coloratura soprano to a guttural alto. Local glam punks Blue Period open the show, while DJs Jenny and Omar (Sixteen, Fake) spin. \$18 advance tix at www.unspunrecords.com. \$20 at door. Doors at 8pm. 375 11th St. at Harrison. Info: 415-626-1409; www.dnalounge.com

Z Space Studio

"Bay Area Playwrights Festival" continues with two staged readings: "The Gibson Girl" (at 3pm) by Kirsten Greenidge; and "Riding the Bull" (at 8pm) by August Schulenburg. \$10 donation per reading (\$55 festival pass good for 7 readings; \$75 includes most special events). 1360 Mission



Lesley Hamilton and David Gaines star in 42nd Street Moon's version of *A Connecticut Yankee*. At Herbst Theatre. See Wednesday.



German post-punk princess Nina Hagen makes a rare appearance in her first San Francisco performance in years. See Sunday.

St., 3rd floor. Tix/info: 263-3986; www.playwrightsfoundation.org

HMI @ The Center

Harvey Milk Institute Arts & Lecture Series presents a reading and book signing with acclaimed New York writer E. Lynn Harris, author of the new novel *A Love of Her Own*. Co-sponsored with A Different Light Bookstore. Including *A Love of Her Own*, Harris has published eight novels, all bestsellers: *Invisible Life* (1991), *Just As I Am* (1994), *And This Too Shall Pass* (1996), *If This World Were Mine* (1997), *Abide With Me* (1999), *Not A Day Goes By* (July 2000), *Any Way the Wind Blows* (July 2001). Over the past two years, he has also been named to *Ebony's* "Most Intriguing Blacks" list, *Out Magazine's* "Out 100" list, *New York Magazine's* "Gay Power 101" list, and *Savoy's* "100 Leaders and Heroes in Black America" list. Other honors have included the Sprague Tode's Literary Award, the Harvey Milk Honorary Diploma, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Free. 7:30pm. LGBT Community Center, Room 400, 1800 Market St. @ Octavia. No reservations required. Info: www.elynnharris.com; www.harveymilk.org.

Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park

"Comedy Day," a free outdoor comedy "concert" featuring nearly 30 of today's top performers, including our own beloved Tom Ammiano, presented by The San Francisco International Comedy Competition, Cobb's Comedy Club, the Punch Line and Jose Simon. The laughs begin at 1:00 pm and continue 'til 5. Come see who will be the first recipient of this coveted San Francisco Stand-up Comedy Legend Award. Info: 339-8050; Comedyday.com

Bottom of the Hill

Three bands generate a storm of noise for the musically divergent: Bone Cootes (with a rootsy, gutsy Tom Waits-esque flavor); True Margrit (aka Margrit Eichler, hummable piano-driven art pop by the keyboardist for Sparrow's Point); and Amy Meyers (musical-theatre-tinged songsmithing). All these are singer/songwriter-led, early '90s-formed veterans of the Above Paradise, the back room at the Albion, and the now-demolished I-beam. The show is for those who like a little thinking with their rocking, and lots of BBQ chicken, burgers, potato salad and the like. \$6 cover. Doors open 4pm. 1233 17th St. (at Missouri). Info: 864-8817; 621-4455 (Bottom of the Hill).

'Fresh' @ Ruby Skye

Showtime and Queer As Folk present "A Night at Babylon" featuring cast members Michelle Clunie (Melanie), Scott Lowell (Ted) and Robert Grant (Ben) from the acclaimed cable-TV show in the VIP room, where they will

be guest bartending and maybe even go-go dancing. A benefit for Destination Foundation, which grants dream trips to those in need. Featuring the high-energy circuit sounds of DJ Roland Belmares (LA) in the ultra-lux, high-tech ambience of the Ruby Skye. \$35 VIP pass. 6pm-12 midnight (meet cast 7-9pm). 420 Mason St. (at Union Square). Tix/info: 477-9097; www.destinationfoundation.org

Mon 19

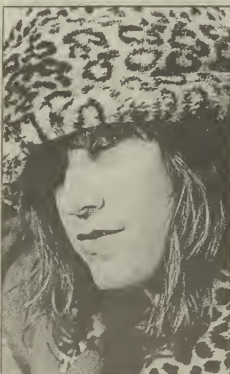
Z Space Studio

"Bay Area Playwrights Festival" continues with a staged reading of Playwrights Foundation Fellowship Recipient: "like sun fallin in the mouth" by Marcus Gardley. \$10 donation (\$55 festival pass good for 7 readings; \$75 includes most special events). 7pm. 1360 Mission St., 3rd floor. Tix/info: 263-3986; www.playwrightsfoundation.org

Tue 20

Footloose @ Venue 9

Footloose presents "Waiting for the Podiatrist," written and performed by Terry Baum (founder of Lilith), the slightly renowned lesbian playwright. A hilarious one-woman show, directed by Paolo Lacy, featuring music by Scumbly Koldewyn (Cockettes), with lyrics by David Hyman. Developed while Baum's father was in intensive care at UCLA Hospital, "Podiatrist" explores the dilemmas of a middle-aged woman with a deathly ill father and a terminally irritated mother, all trapped in the nightmare funhouse of Modern Medicine. Will Mom and Sandy pull the plug on their beloved patriarch? If they don't, where can they find someone to cut his gigantic toenails? \$8-\$12 sliding (\$15 Fri.,



True Margrit joins Bone Cootes and the Living Wrecks and the Amy Meyers Band at the Bottom of the Hill. See Sunday.

Aug. 23). 8pm Tue.-Fri., Aug. 20-23, and Tue. & Wed., Aug. 27 & 28 (August 21 show is a benefit for the Pat Bond memorial Old Dyke Award). 252 Ninth St. (btwn Folsom & Howard). Tix/info: 289-2000; www.venue9.com; www.ticketweb.com; TIX Union Square.

Wed 21

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Limited engagement: "My Dinner with Lunatique Fantastique," a smorgasbord of food talent and utensil utility. A multi-course menu that will appeal to the mind, stomach and funny bone. Directed by Liebe Wetzel. Performed by the Lunatique Fantastique Ensemble (Ben Dziuba, Greg Frisbee, Suzie Gaskill, Kirsten Kammenmeyer, Rob Penn and Liebe Wetzel). This extraordinary troupe performs a brand of puppetry that has to be seen to be believed; risqué material not suited to young impressionable minds and/or stick-in-the-mud adults. \$15-\$20. 8pm Wed.-Sat.; 2pm Sun., thru Sept. 15. 25 Van Ness Ave., lower lobby. Tix/info: 861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

Herbst Theatre

Preview: 42nd Street Moon's 10th anniversary season continues with a rousing production of Rodgers and Hart's "A Connecticut Yankee," performed with full orchestra and starring Broadway performer Davis Gaines (*Phantom of the Opera*). A society playboy gets knocked in the head by his fiancée and dreams of being a stranger at the court of King Arthur, where he introduces 1940s live-talk, swing dancing, and modern inventions like the telephone. Opens Thu., Aug. 22. \$25 preview; \$30-\$40 (\$25-\$35 seniors/students) thru Aug. 25. 8pm Wed.-Sat.; 2pm & 7pm Sun. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: City Box Office, 392-4400; www.42ndStMoon.org

The Stud

"Stood Up," a diverse evening of stand up comedy with Ronn Vigh, Pippi Lovestocking, and more. \$5. 8:30pm. 9th & Harrison.

Thu 22

Z Space Studio

"Bay Area Playwrights Festival" continues with a staged reading of "The Gibson Girl" by Kirsten Greenidge. \$10 donation (\$55 festival pass good for 7 readings; \$75 includes most special events). 7pm. 1360 Mission St., 3rd floor. Tix/info: 263-3986; www.playwrightsfoundation.org

EXIT Theatre

The San Francisco Fringe Festival presents a benefit performance of "A Fifth of Arsenic and Old Lace," an original evening of theatrics inspired by Joseph Kesselring's classic comedy. A single play with five different directors (Libby O'Connell; Rebecca Salzer; Susannah Martin; Meredith Ejdred; and Laura Ellen Smith) and casts. Each director creates 12 minutes of this singular production, using the Kesselring play as a foundation. \$20. 8pm. Thru Aug. 24. 156 Eddy St. Tix/info: 673-8347; www.sf-fringe.org

Books, Inc.

Critically acclaimed graphic artist Adrian Tomine reads from and signs copies of his new book, *Summer Blonde*. This hardcover collection of his cult comic series "Optic Nerve" is sure to become a collector's item. Free. 7:30pm. 2275 Market St. Info: 864-6777; booksinc.net

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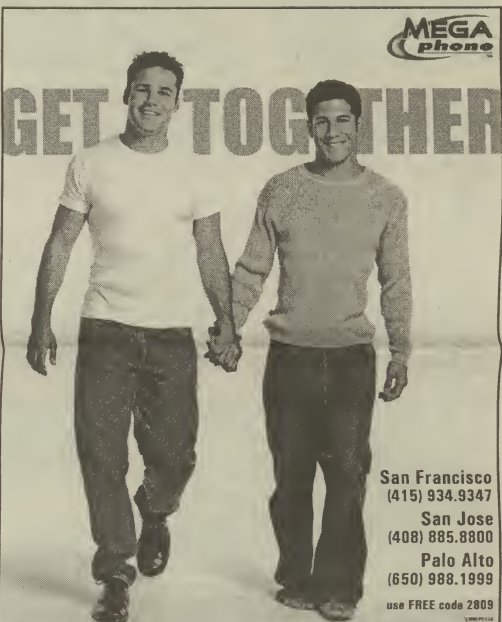
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Personal touch

Wescott biographer Jerry Rosco has it

by Gregg Shapiro

Literary biographies such as *Glenway Wescott Personally: A Biography* (University of Wisconsin Press, \$29.95) often cross several borders. Writers tend to be travelers, seeking other lands and distant locales to broaden their personal and prose landscapes. Writers also have the ability to mix with other artists working in different genres.

The Wisconsin-born author Glenway Wescott lived in both the U.S. and Europe, and had many friends in theater, film and the visual arts. Another boundary he crossed was sexuality. The openly gay Wescott had a longtime male companion, Monroe Wheeler, as well as an array of younger male lovers throughout his life. In his fascinating biography of Wescott, author Jerry Rosco has assembled both an essential portrait of a remarkable writer and a compelling work of gay 20th-century history.

Gregg Shapiro: How did you come to discover Glenway Wescott?

Jerry Rosco: Only a few years after college, I was lucky to meet him. A friend from my publishing job, John Stevenson, became Wescott's last younger lover. His lifelong companion was Museum of Modern Art curator Monroe Wheeler, but Glenway and Monroe both had younger lovers. Even in his 70s, Wescott was very handsome, with a wonderfully resonant voice, a great gift for language and love of life. He was like an author from central casting. And when I read his novels and essays, I was awed.

Writing a biography is a major project. What was your research process like?

This was a process of many years. It began with a dozen articles and essays about Wescott. After his death, I co-edited his journals, *Continual Lessons* (1990). Then I began the biography. If I were an academic, I would have taken a grant or two, because professors can go on sabbatical. But in the real world you don't quit your job to write a book, because you may never get a full-time job again. So I devoted many Saturdays to Wescott's archive at the Berg Collection in

New York, and months of vacation time to his giant archive at Yale in New Haven. I traveled to interview people. I spent most of my nights transcribing Wescott interviews, writing and revising. I'd go out for last call to my favorite bar to wind down, then sleep a few hours and get up for my day job. But I don't need much sleep. It took 10 years. There was a lost year in the middle when my young lover Jack was fatally ill with AIDS. I never really recovered from that, but I slowly got back to work on the book.

The people who knew Wescott before me were very helpful, from those who went back to the 1930s, like Paul Cadmus and Charles Henri Ford, to those who knew him in midcentury and later.

Was there anyone you wanted to interview you didn't get?

There was a minor figure, Bill Miller, who was praised in *The Gay Metropolis* [by Charles Kaiser] as the most handsome man of the 1940s. He had been a model for Wescott's and Wheeler's intimate friend, the photographer George Platt Lynes. Heavy and ill in his late years, Miller became a recluse and refused to be seen, though he talked to me on the phone a little. He's gone now.

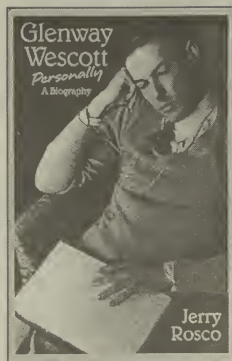
Like many young people before Generation X, I loved the '20s expatriates, especially Hemingway, so I knew who Wescott was before I met him. There's no doubt the '20s era was the most glamorous of the century. Back then, mass culture was centered around the novel. Today, mass culture is in a post-literate age. Just look who got himself appointed President. But I'm an optimist, I believe books and art will always be appreciated by some, and that our culture may improve some day.

In addition to the cast of characters from Paris in the '20s and New York in the '40s, Wescott was also friends with Dr. Alfred Kinsey.

Wescott said the gods he believed in were time, memory, language and sex. He cared passionately about sexual freedom for all people. And when he became close friends with Kinsey, he showed him many aspects of gay life, even a sex party. He sent young volunteers to the Institute for Sex Research to be

filmed in the act. He himself was filmed masturbating. And it's known now that he and the mostly-heterosexual Kinsey had a sexual moment or two. But he devoted countless hours of library and research work to the Institute, and he was one of Kinsey's best friends when the puritanical Republicans and rednecks literally hounded Alfred to death. There is a big chapter on all this in the book because it was a huge part of Glenway's life.

Even after Kinsey's death, Wescott continued to visit the In-



stitute for Sex Research and push the issue of homosexual rights. He and Christopher Isherwood

got E.M. Forster's posthumous gay novel *Maurice* into print. And his journals have contributed a lot to what we call Gay Studies. Glenway and Monroe Wheeler were a legendary gay couple.

I'm putting together a manuscript of unpublished Wescott fiction, *A Visit to Priapus and Other Stories*, somewhat like Forster's posthumous stories. A bigger goal is to edit a last volume of Wescott journals, but right now, I feel that the Wescott biography will be the main accomplishment of my life. ▼

Menage à trois

by Robert Julian

The Fatal Englishman by Sebastian Faulks; Vintage, \$14

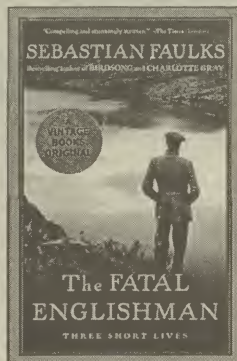
Sebastian Faulks, the author of *Charlotte Gray* and other novels, first took up nonfiction with the 1996 release of *The Fatal Englishman*, now available in paperback from Vintage Books. In an inspired and thoroughly unprecedented fashion, Faulks undertakes biographies of three prominent young Englishmen of the 20th century, all within the confines of one book. Their separate lives unfold, one by one, in the order in which they were lived, as each of them hurls himself into a premature grave. If there is a unifying theme to the work, it might be summed up by the generalization: "Stiff upper lip = Death."

The handsome painter Christopher Wood opens this biographical *menage à trois* with his tortured life, drastically altered by childhood polio. The dashing young athlete morphs into the tortured artist whose vulnerability is represented by the walking cane he will carry for the rest of his life. His career as an artist begins in earnest when he takes up residence in Paris and is kept by his male lover. Wood's charm and good looks bring him a succession of patrons, both male and female, as his social circle widens to include Picasso, Jean Cocteau, and

Diaghilev. Determined to achieve success as a painter, he finally has his great artistic breakthrough. Unfortunately, it arrives at the very point his opium addiction goes from chronic to acute. In an opium-induced paranoia, artistically and financially frustrated, he throws himself in front of a train at the age of 30.

The second "fatal Englishman" is WWII fighter pilot Richard Hillary. The dashing, brazen superstar of the Battle of Britain is shot down at the age of 19, and horribly disfigured by the flames shooting up from inside his cockpit. After dozens of plastic surgeries, Hillary lives to write his personal story in the form of *The Last Enemy*, an international bestseller in 1942. And, although disfigured, the randy airman manages an affair with actress Merle Oberon. Despite being unfit for duty, he uses his considerable influence and no small amount of emotional blackmail to get reassigned to active duty as a pilot. In rather short order, his plane nose-dives to the ground in a routine training maneuver. Hillary was 23 years old at the time.

The final Englishman, born in 1936, is the wildly promiscuous homosexual Jeremy Wolfenden, whose academic brilliance at Eton and Oxford promoted him to a position of prominence among the English public-school guardians of the failing British Empire. Unapologetic about his sexual ex-



ploits, even when a teenager, Wolfenden astounds his superiors with his behavior and his intelligence. Fluent in Russian, after two years in an elite branch of the British military, he is ultimately assigned to Moscow as a journalist for the *Daily Telegraph*. But Wolfenden gets caught up in the Cold War and is recruited as a spy. His homosexuality becomes a thorny problem that compromises his position as an agent, but it is alcoholism that becomes his undoing. After settling down and marrying a young woman many years his junior, he drinks himself to death in their Washington, DC apartment at the ripe old age of 31.

Author Sebastian Faulks makes these three stories come alive on the page in a remarkable fashion. With an economy of style and a brisk pace, he draws the line of tragedy that connects the three men with great aplomb. ▼

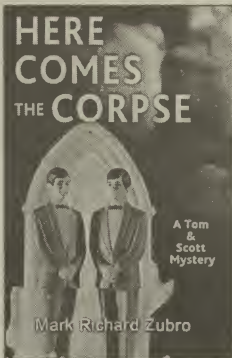
Generic murders

by Robert Julian

Here Comes the Corpse by Mark Richard Zubro; St. Martin's Minotaur, \$23.95

Mystery novels are a specific literary genre with a loyal fan base. Author Mark Richard Zubro, a high school teacher from Mokena, Illinois, has 14 published mysteries to his credit, each with gay protagonists. His latest effort, *Here Comes the Corpse*, is "A Tom & Scott Mystery." This series focuses on a high school teacher named Tom Mason and his famous lover, Scott Carpenter, who is a professional baseball player. Like adult gay Hardy Boys, they solve crimes, stumbling across more bodies than you would find in a whole season of *Murder, She Wrote*.

Here Comes the Corpse opens with Tom and Scott's Chicago



wedding. Unfortunately, the reception is marred by the discovery of one of Tom's former lovers, found dead in a restroom stall. Quicker than you can say *habeas corpus*, the honeymoon is postponed and the boys are off to solve

the murder mystery. In the process of their investigation, they uncover a pornography ring, incest, and several other dead bodies.

Zubro's prose is either calculated to reach high school readers, or is simply stuck in retrograde. His point of view is relentlessly politically correct, and his pro-gay stance often veers toward the didactic. It's hard to say if this author is simply paving the road to literary hell with his good intentions, or providing a valuable service for unsophisticated readers who might not be exposed to these ideas elsewhere. *Here Comes the Corpse* never challenges. It just plods along in a predictable and uninspired fashion until Zubro is finished dragging out a collection of stock characters who serve as murder suspects or victims. Mark Richard Zubro has certainly created a niche for himself, one that is more Nancy Drew than Robert Ludlum. ▼

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BOOKS

Reeling in the '50s

'The Bad & the Beautiful' looks at Hollywood

by Tavo Amador

The further in time the decade once labeled the "Fabulous Fifties" recedes, the more critics are exploring the troubled nature of American society that lurked beneath images fostered by *Ozzie and Harriet*, *Leave It To Beaver*, and hula hoops. *The Bad & the Beautiful* by Sam Kashner and Jennifer MacNair (Norton, \$26.95) looks at Hollywood in that decade, confirming that America was filled with anxiety, homophobia, and racism. None of this is new. What is unusual is the approach, more topical than thematic.

The authors begin with 1950's *Sunset Boulevard*, Billy Wilder's brilliant black valentine to Hollywood's golden past. In the ruined hopes of mad Norma Desmond, Kashner and MacNair see harbingers of volcanic changes to come: the end of the old studio system, the rise of sleazy magazines like *Confidential*, the Communist witch-hunts, the outing of many gay stars, a new age of ponderous religious epics, and the final, venomous flowering of powerful gossip columnists Louella Parsons, Hedda Hopper, and Sheilah Graham. They also focus on films exposing social ills: *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955), *Sweet Smell of Success*, *Peyton Place* (both 1957), and *Imitation of Life* (1959).

The chapters about Communism, homosexuality and *Confidential*'s determination to expose both are grimly fascinating. The connection between the two wasn't invented — the earliest gay liberationists, like Mattachine Society founder Harry Hay, had been Communists, but they realized that Marxist societies were no more accepting than capitalist America was. Hay organized the Mattachine Society along the lines of the American Communist Party, including secret cells whose members often did not know each other's names. But *Confidential*'s founders were fanatics out to expose the country's "moral corruption," and were unconcerned with accuracy. The good news is that the magazine's success was short-lived and that one of its key editors committed suicide after destroying his own reputation. But before its demise, it damaged many careers.

Among those whose alleged homosexuality *Confidential* "exposed" were '40s temptress Elizabeth Scott and handsome, wholesome Tab Hunter. Scott's career effectively ended in 1957, two years after the magazine's stories first appeared, but Hunter survived the smears. Especially intriguing is how Universal Studios "protected" its most valuable star, Rock Hudson. Universal — and his agent, Henry Willson — arranged his marriage, then gave *Confidential* information regarding actor Rory Calhoun's prison record in exchange for silence about Hudson's homosexuality.

Wild bunch

The films and personalities analyzed are a mixed bunch, and at times the choices are hard to justify. Far too much space is given to pianist Oscar Levant and his best-known film, *An American in Paris* (1951). Little, however, is said about the far more

daring *Suddenly, Last Summer* (1959), based on Tennessee Williams' one-act play about homosexuality, cannibalism, lobotomy, and a twisted mother/son relationship. On the other hand, the authors are at their best in discussing Nicholas Ray's *Rebel Without a Cause*.

German director Douglas Sirk's melodramas, *Magnificent Obsession* (1955) and *All That Heaven Allows* (1957), and their profound influence on Hudson's warm, hunky appeal are given an intelligent analysis. The small-town hypocrisy revealed in Grace Metalious' novel, *Peyton Place*, filmed in 1957 with Lana Turner, herself embroiled in one of Hollywood's most infamous scandals that same year, also makes for compelling reading.

The authors focus welcome attention on gay playwright William Inge, who, initially with help from Williams, triumphed during the decade with stage and screen hits *Come Back, Little*

Sheba (1952), *Picnic* (1955), *Bus Stop* (1956), and *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs* (1960). He would also win an Oscar for writing *Splendor in the Grass* (1961). Almost forgotten today, Inge, plagued by alcoholism and internalized homophobia, was once seen as a "Midwestern Williams." In truth, he was a fine dramatist with his own voice, but a victim of the harsh prejudice homosexuals encountered in that dark era. Unfortunately, Kashner and MacNair do not contrast Inge and Williams more. The latter refused to live in the closet and dealt with gay issues in his plays, but after his last Broadway success, *The Night of the Iguana* (filmed in 1962), endured vicious, personal attacks from homophobic critics who resented his revolutionary impact on the American theatre, and who longed to destroy his reputation.

The chapter on Parsons, Hopper, and Graham is illuminating, although the authors fail to men-

tion that Parsons' only child, producer Harriet Parsons, was a lesbian, or that Hopper's sole offspring, actor William Hopper (Natalie Wood's father in *Rebel* and Paul Drake on television's *Perry Mason*) left his wife and children for another man. Racism is exposed in recounting the Sammy Davis, Jr./Kim Novak romance.

The discussion of the aging Mae West, while campy, is unimportant. Despite occasional shortcomings, the authors do turn the spotlight on an ugly, often ideal-

ized period of American history, revealing many bitter truths that are especially relevant in today's climate of fear and paranoia. ▼



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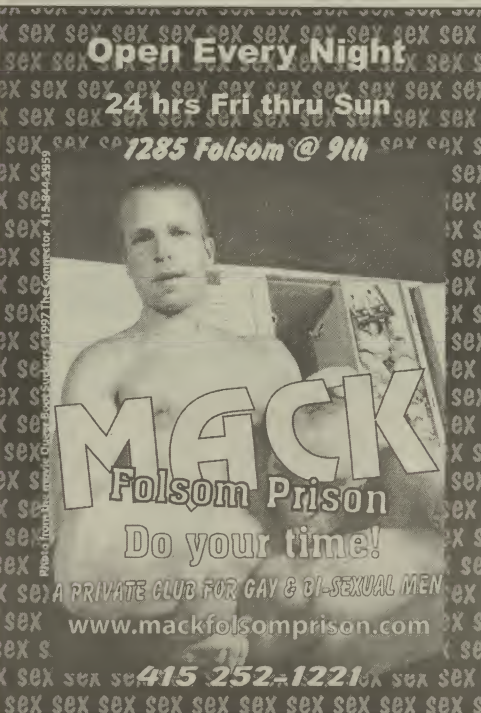
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Ms. World Leather hits Dallas

New Zealand's Karen McGee takes title

by Mister Marcus

The second edition of the Ms. World Leather 2002 title contest unfolded in steamy Dallas, Texas last weekend, August 9-11, as the faithful converged to pay respect to the outgoing incumbent, Annie Romano-Blas, and to welcome the newly elected woman to carry this title.

All the major leather titleholders were on hand in warm and rainy Dallas, except for one who was attending her own step-down in Portland, Oregon.

The rains came on Saturday morning, but the open-to-the-public contestant interviews went on as scheduled, as did the workshops and seminars, not to mention the vendor market and parties galore.

The Dallas Boys of Leather set up a gourmet coffee and donuts room-delivery system for anyone who cared to have their java in bed. And it wasn't just all women in attendance. Play parties for both men and women took place — including a panssexual one. The volunteers did their best to keep Ms. World President Jill Carter smiling throughout.

Two unique aspects of this contest are the judging interviews and the crossfire-press questioning, both judged categories, and both open to the public. The amphitheater at the hotel was jam-packed for both sessions. At least a dozen members of the press from around the country fired questions not unlike the White House Press Corps. To contest veterans, the crossfire session has been deemed the most difficult and the most interesting part of the competition.

A farewell party for Annie Romano-Blas was an elegant champagne and hors d'oeuvres event, all part of the weekend package, not to mention the workshops, the most popular one being the cigar bash hosted by Frank Nowicki, where almost 60 people discussed (while smoking the brown bananas) social graces, how to prepare a cigar for smoking and management of ashes that come from cigars. It was a hoot!

The basket auction for the



Karen McGee of Jacksonville, Florida was chosen Ms. World Leather 2002 last Sunday, August 11 at the Radisson Hotel in Dallas, Texas. She triumphed over three other women in the competition.

contestants' travel fund was profitable, with almost \$4,000 raised, and Ms. Julie Dahlin of the Lupus Foundation was on hand to thank our Annie for her diligent raising of funds for the organization. Later, high-ranking civic dignitaries in San Diego presented her with proclamations and certificates of honor.

The four contestants, Geri Farley of Philadelphia, Karen McGee of Jacksonville, Florida, Mistress Sly from Boston, Massachusetts, and Kathleen (Slave O) Nottaro of Largo, Florida breezed through the judging segments with what appeared to be the minimum of stress. They all seemed to be enjoying themselves at all the events observed by judges Annie Romano-Blas, Cain Berlinger, Lady MJ, Sir Adam, Goddess Lakshmi, Master Scott Parker and Slave Christina Parker with Viola Johnson the Chief Judge. These eminences admitted it was not an easy judging scenario, as all four women were seasoned leather/bdsm types, with track records in activism, fundraising and leather interaction.

San Francisco's own Queen Cougar emceed all portions of the competition, and dazzled the audience with high-couture outfits, including a revealing chain-male top for the final moments of the competition.

The featured entertainment at the contest was perennial favorite Jeanie Tracy, who managed to get Jo Blas and Vern Stewart onstage during one of her upbeat numbers, and both gyrated the stage with wild applause from the audience.

Annie's step-aside speech was another sincere thank you with accolades to various individuals who were instrumental in her travels, including to the Exiles of SF for raising thousands of dollars to get sign interpreters to the contest, covering air fare and hotel accommodations. Also to WALP in Amsterdam, and countless others. It was a joyous interlude with no tears and Annie's knowledge that she had done a great job with the title and left a legacy that will be forever indelible in the hearts of the leather nation.

The moment of truth finally arrived. Esteemed tallymaster Tim Wong delivered the envelopes to the stage. Slave O was named the

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, August 16-18

Northwest Leather Sir/Boy competition in Seattle all weekend, with meet and greet on Friday, play-parties, contest — and a weekend like only Mark Colter can produce. Need more information? Point your browser to www.NWLeatherSir.com.

Saturday, August 17

Leather Ball 8 in Toronto — always a humongous leathery disco party! Sponsored by Mr. Leather Toronto, Inc. For more info, click on www.Least-herball.com.

"Who Murdered Donna Sachet... again?" Loads of laughs at the Russian Center on Sutter @ Divisadero. This one is a sure hoot — if it's not sold out already!

Bears of SF beer/soda bust at the Lone Star Saloon, from 1500-1900, to benefit the HIV Network.

Sunday, August 18

Golden Gate Guards MC host the beer/soda bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800 with the usual and food, of course!

Wednesday, August 21

Underwear Buddies @ 933 Harrison, with doors open from 2100-2300 only. No frillies, please, and lacy ones will only be cause for ridicule! Call 777-HEAD if you need details.

Weekend, August 23-25

In San Diego, it's the Southern California Leather Sir/Boy competition, produced by Graylin Thornton, with a stellar list of judges.

Wednesday, August 28

Leather Buddies gather at 933 Harrison tonight, with doors open from 2000-2300 only. You know the rules. Leather, uniforms, latex only; no cologne, no sneakers. For info call 777-HEAD.

PORN

What price glory?

What we won't cover in this column

by John F. Karr

The hottest piece of porno I've seen in a long time is a movie I'm not allowed to write about.

Well, won't allow myself to write about.

I picked up the movie because the guy on the box cover caught my eye. A major turn-on, he was a lean bleached blond with a full sleeve of tattooed roses twining down each arm. Hard not to recognize him as a regular at the neighborhood gym, where my mole tells me, "He's a really nice guy."

I popped the movie into my VCR and was incredibly turned on. Rose Man had a beautifully stout dick, which he used with a strength and skill that were simultaneously raw and tender. He fucked his buddy silly, cradled him in his arms, kissed him lovingly, then fucked him silly some more. And then fucked him slowly, steadily. Then they took another break, snuggled together peacefully until Rose Man's dick started twitching and rose once again to its solid strength. Kissing his buddy passionately, Rose Man fucked to a whopping climax. There was an excess of romantic ardor involved here, but there's also no doubt about what Rose Man's buddy got: Plowed.

Beyond incredible sex, the movie was good porn because it was the antithesis of mainstream porn, with its rooster display of cockery, freeze-dried and cut up for packaging. Rose Man's 40-minute scene seemed to play out in real time, with the barest amount of editing flattering the sexual expertise. The video was amateur enough to make you feel voyeuristic, but professional enough to impress. The picture's startling presence, and the especially smart, dead-on camerawork impressed upon me that the film-

maker really liked sex, and took some care in filming it, instead of processing the short serving of cute that is standard fare.

Only one problem. It was a barebacking movie. Now, you know how I used to be — it was all about the jiz. O cum into me, all ye that are heavy-laden, for I will sucketh off. It was hard to give that up. But after some years of abstinence, it became clear (although not 100% law) that eating cum wouldn't kill you. If it did, we'd all be dead. It's taking it up the ass that does it. That's why, when barebacking movies first appeared, I was appalled and decided

not to review them. I don't want to feel responsible for leading the proverbial horse to a poisoned trough.

Classic cock

The sex in the movie I watched would have been just as impressive if it had been condomed; Rose Man is an ideal fucker. But compare a barebacking movie to the vintage porn that's being marketed as Pre-Condom Classics. They're similar in that, quite simply, you can see the penis. The effect cannot be underestimated. And they're different in their attitude toward cum.

In the old days, cum was given and accepted as the joy of sex. We absorbed cum as the manly essence, the fruit of our labors. But what used to be a vitamin is now a weapon. In today's barebacking films, it's injected into bodies, shot in with defiance precisely because it's a controlled substance. Since mainstream porn won't depict any ingestion of cum — a somewhat draconian application of sensible practice — we endure the insensible. In Rose

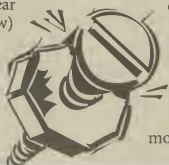
Man's movie, he begins to orgasm outside the body, giving visible proof of cum, and then shoves his dick in. Afterward, his buddy splooges some back out of his ass as proof it was up there. In subsequent scenes, cum is puddled in a cratered asshole to verify its presence, and then jammed into the ass by finger. Cum is no longer just a fun pay-off. It's the Eu-

charist of rebellion, its delivery and acceptance marking the participants as somehow more manly for perpetrating a renegade act. But like most rebellion, it's adolescent in the most typical sense.

And you know what gets me about barebackers? They always say they take full responsibility. Yet if they do get AIDS, they aren't the ones who will pay for the medications, or the final, protracted hospital stay. Anyone can afford fucking. But no one can afford AIDS. And how responsible is that?

Barebacking movies appear to be uncomfortably popular. Retail stores in the Castro have stacks of them, and they're flying in and out of the rental stores. Is that because — a thought that makes me sad — lots of people are barebacking? Or is it that when people watch, it's not them doing it? Now, I've contradicted myself in previous columns. I've said that porn is an educational medium, that we learn sexual behavior from it. And I've said that I will watch sex acts on film that I would never think of doing myself. So which is it?

With the latter, I know at least that the fantasy is safe. But with barebacking, the reality is unsafe. So I'm still not reviewing barebacking movies. ▼



Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

first runner-up — and Ms. World Leather 2002 is Karen McGee, a diminutive bundle of energy from New Zealand.

Karen stood in disbelief as Annie adorned her with her medal, the Ms. World Leather shawl, the Ms. World vest patch, and a dozen leather roses. Ms. World Leather president Jill Carter, and treasurer Mark Frazer, followed with the signing of the \$5,000 check award for the winner.

The audience roared its approval and camera flashbulbs exploded from almost two dozen press representatives.

Later, there was a huge crowd at the Dallas Eagle to savor the champagne victory party for leatherdom's newest icon. It was a gratifying weekend where men (lots of them!) and women mingled comfortably and enjoyed the whole schedule.

Ms. World board members serve a two-year term, and the entire structuring for Ms. World 2003 has yet to be determined. I can truthfully say that my two-year stint as a member of the board was gratifying, inspiring and fulfilling. It was great to see women of leather who are activists, leaders and inspirational figures go out and continue their



Outgoing Ms. World Leather 2002 Annie Romano-Blas was surrounded by the other major title-holders — IM Drummer & Boy, American Leatherman & Boy, Int'l. Ms. Leather, Int'l. Mr. Leather, IM Bootblack, IMs.Bootblack, and Int'l. Mater & Slave — at the reception in her honor.

vital work. At least two television talk shows have expressed an interest in the new title, including Montel Williams. Stay tuned.

Plan now to attend Ms. World Leather 2003 in Dallas next August. Watch this column for exact dates and other information.

Harrumph!

On the home front, it is my understanding that Leather/Levi Weekend 2002 at Saratoga Springs north of San Francisco was a resounding success, with another record crowd — but

you'll have to wait for details. No results reached me by deadline!

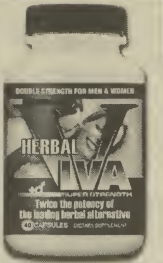
Also in Portland, Oregon, Rob Hathaway and Tobin Britton stepped down, and Mr. and Ms. Oregon State Leather (Tobin is also American Leather Woman 2002), but Black Light Productions again failed to send the news of their winners. Oh well, their criticism of Roland Bynum's productions of these titles is a moot point in view of their own inability to publicize their event — and worse yet, failure to publicize their winners! ▼

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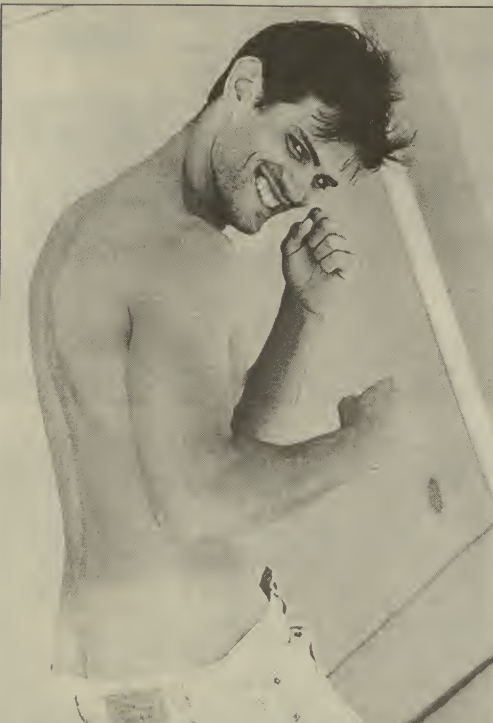


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PARTING GLANCES

Tight Levis Man Outside Harvest
You: outside Harvest on Market, 40ish, tight Levis petting dog. Me: 30, GWM, longish hair, mesmerized by you. Should have talked to you longer. Let's connect, handsome! ☎ 71956

Mike, Thank You For The Evening
We met on July 5th in bookstore, went to galleries and Center. Too nervous to ask your number and tell you how I enjoyed your company. Please email or call. ☎ 71957

"Looking For Steven!"
You were at the Eagle with friends. We met again at "Powerhouse". You: sweet and sexy. Me: I fucked... up. Can we try again? ☎ 71958

"Are You Scorpio?..."
Friday July 26 9pm, you went from Davis Symphony Hall and we met at statue (corner G & Van Ness). You asked how many blocks to Bart... I am curious because I am Pisces. Please call, you a kind guy. ☎ 71972

Smiles @ Fag Fridays 8/2
You: Asian, muscular, around 5'6", short, salt-pepper hair, big smile w/2 friends. Me: WM; 5'11", muscular in white shirt. Good eye contact. I'd like to meet you. ☎ 71973

Tues. 9, July 02 4:43:30pm Castro Muni (inbound). You: David, going dwtin for meeting. Me: David too! In blue SFDD t-shirt, asked me did I work for them? More than grinned when I answered! Did sparks fly, or what? Please contact or stop in, you know where! ☎ 71942

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Cool 38yrs Houseboy Latin
Healthy HIV+ Latin: 5'8", 160 like hugging/loving body contact masculine young looking versatile seeking GWM-slim-masculine young looking under 40 yrs. height and weight proportional no fats fems drugs+ size small to medium dick. Versatile. ☎ 71943

Seeking Sweet Guy In South-Bay
Very young looking EurAsian, 45 yrs old, brwn hrd eyes, seeks W/H/A cute guy who is too sweet for words! Love nature, walking, talking, sunset, rain, simple "real" things! No scene, bar etc. Not a sex add! ☎ 71945

ISO Muscular-Athletic Asian
Asian seeks young gym-toned, in shape Asian for fun and possible relations. If not Asian, need not apply. ☎ 71961

ISO Intelligent Friend / LTR
Successful professional, 50, in good shape and health. Interests: arts, science, travel, etc. Long-time partner died last year. Am now ready to make new friends. ISO caring person, possible LTR. ☎ 71946

Looking For A Ready Bitch?...
... With smooth skin, your average dick, brown eyes, white hair whose open, fun-loving, happily established: I'm it. You: dark hair, eyes, skin, hefty dick, love being top gun. ☎ 71947

30's Masc. Top, Seeks Young, Fun
Cute prof. male therapist/teacher seeks younger masc male for str/hr. Know who you are & what you want. I do. ☎ 71948

P/T Romantic F/T Realist Part 2
Hey!... Wanted more?... Enjoy quiet dinners (yes clubbing (occasionally) walks (long) spooning (a must!)). Not kevl with baggage, self-centeredness, chain-smokers, 6, 170lbs. smooth, cut, no Epanol. Masculine easy going. Later. ☎ 71949

"Be My Daddy!"
Mario, slim olive-skinned Italian, 22, fresh in SF ISO older potential life-mate. Personality before looks. Show me your San Francisco, raw or glorious. No STD's. ☎ 71950

Bi Curious
Good looking, athletic, professional, straight-acting, easygoing, SWM, 39/6/175, b/r/b, discreet, hairy, clean, HIV-Neg; seeks younger closeted buddy who wants to get together for fun and exploration. My place SF. ☎ 71959

GWM Gorilla Hunk Wants Furry Twin
Are Apollo, Hercules, and Eros your favorites? If so, you've found a friend. My narcissism seeks in-shape, pot GWM into endless touching, hugging, kissing, sucking, Tantric eroticism, bonding, cosmic merging. ☎ 71960

Together, Built, Furry SF GWM
Seeks tall, in-shape, furry, mature, oral GWM for fun in and out of bed--dining, dancing, movies, culture, hiking, nude beaches, gym. I am adventurous, educated, worldly, cultured, imaginative, cooperative, appreciative, optimistic, sex-crazed, gym rat, health nut, and like sharing the things that living in gay SF is all about. ☎ 71944

Versatile Regular Guy
Youthful, clean-living, 43y.o. male seeks lusty, versatile, fit gbl WM for affection, write foreplay and mutual mounting. I'm 6'3", 178, slim-muscular, std free and sensual. ☎ 71962

Rugged Guy
Masculine, athletic, dominant but cool, smooth, Asian, 54, 5'8", 155 seeking clean-shaven, lean/muscular WM into workouts, running, sports, outdoors, hiking, films, ethnic foods, travel, and the arts. ☎ 71963

"Safe Sex Only"
GBM, 51, 5'10", 220, ch. 50", aggressive, swollen nipples, nice legs, goodlooking, looks 45, 9 1/2" to 10", and 7 1/2" round, kissable, strong appearance like a football player. ☎ 71974

GWM ISO GAM For Dating, LTR?
Me: 49, 6'1", 195lbs, professional, romantic, humorous, and versatile. Enjoy movies, plays sports, working out. You: similar interests, honest. Call. ☎ 71975

Mature Men!!
WLM 46, 6', 165lbs, dk hr. ISO mature men over 50 who enjoy deep kissing, holding, affection & oral pleasures. Non-gym, husky/heavysset, facial hair a plus. Not into gay sex or lifestyle, drugs but it. drink, smoking ok. ☎ 71976

Wanted - Nice Guy, Goal - LTR
Young thinking almost 57, S.W.M. 6'1", 195 dark hair & moustache. Wanting soul mate who can communicate. I like gardening, weekend trips, dogs, herb, quality time at home looking for some what younger (mid 30's through 40's) any race or color, exotic looks, 2nd spirit, especially encouraged to call. ☎ 71978

"Strong & Aggressive"
You must be able to take my aggressive strong sucking of your nipples and neck and belly button. I'm 9 1/2" to 10" and 7 1/2" round for sex sex. ☎ 71979

Black Top!
"44yr sex feet, bald, handsome, top" seek bottom only for intimate activity possible ltr, open to any race. ☎ 71981

Looking For A Rebound Boyfriend
...sort of. Friends dared me to place this ad, so here goes. Recently single & missing the fun stuff. Looking for someone to hang out, make out, have fun sex, go to the movies, make dinner with, etc. At least for the foreseeable future... and maybe beyond. Pretty simple. I'm a great guy. Really. GL, mid 40s, professional, etc. U should be similar, but all considered. Call now. All calls returned. ☎ 71980

"18 To 25 Only"
Black, 51, 5'10", 220, ch.50", goodlooking, looks 45, kissable, aggressive. You 18 to 25 can stand my strong low making. Nice round butt and swollen nipples. ☎ 71982

One Good Man Wanted For Lover
White man 49, 5' 209lbs brown hair blue eyes a bottom line oral seeking White man 40-60 for a lover. ☎ 71977

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hungry Cock Sucker
GWM 49 loves Big cock 8" or better uncut a plus! Lay back and get expertly done downtown location discreet. ☎ 71951

Pool + Voyeur = Fun
Exhibitionist, Hot. Interracial couple will travel within two hours of Bay Area to frolic waterside for your viewing pleasure. Age unimportant. ☎ 71952

ISO Hairy Little Fuck Buddy
Hairy muscled tattooed skinhead/ leatherman, 5'8", 145, pot, wants short hairy muscled buddy for rough hard sweaty mutual latex free but-fucks; must be hairy and into mutual rough play. ☎ 71953

GWM 46, 5'5", 135lbs Stache B/Bl
30-50 nds for safe fun with my 7" cut dick and yours. ISO mellow fuck buds, who are clean & in shape. ☎ 71964

Stovepipe
BM seeks GWM 60 years or older that needs some good hot stovepipe. ☎ 71965

Oral Expert!!
Black male, muscular, hung. Seeking hung guys to service. 21-50. ☎ 71966

-Oral Marathons-
Cute, masculine bi top, 33, brown, blue, tattoo, worked-out, worked-in; seeking intense young hairless bottom for intense marathons. Do it! ☎ 71967

Bottom Bruiser?
Husky build, conservative appearance, moustache? Mature, endowed Black topman will leave a deposit in your male box. Be sincere, available, easy to reach. All ages, races welcome. No voice-mail. ☎ 71968

Big Dick For 69 Needed!
Discrete guy, good-looking, seeks very hung 69 dude. Looking for guys hung 9, or 10" or more. Hung 8" o.k., watch good videos, party; etc. ☎ 71969

Hard Cock Needs Soft Hand
Masculine mature WM needs occasional prolonged climax delaying cock massage. No oral, no reciprocation, just complete hand job. ☎ 71970

Spank Your butt
Goodlooking topman, 37, 5'11", 170#, work out. Seeks well-built bottom with firm, round butt spanking. Into role-playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 71983

Suck Me, Fuck Me!
32y 5'8" 8" of hard hung cock waiting to be used. Me-I want it hard while you grab my cock and talk dirty. Dave ☎ 71984

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"Wanted Dominant Female!"
SWF 55 wanting a dominant female, who like a little kinky sex and maybe a new relationship. ☎ 71971

Barefootin' Buddy!
GWM, 34, slim, into natural barefoot lifestyle: always barefoot, everywhere. Wants similar guys with tough, filthy feet for barefoot outings on grimy streets. Will worship your filthy feet; mutual ok. ☎ 71985

ISO Bear Daddy Nipple Wk Out Buddy
47 yr ol. GWM stocky 220# serious nip-pig & huge erect nips! 8m/bm, salt-pepper goatee, tat's, piercing, smoker! ISO huge nip bear daddy & attitude. For serious nip wk out sessions, smoker A+. Please call. ☎ 71986

Total Pig!
GWM 39yrs 150lbs blond-brown swimmer build 8" cock, very hot hole, into fisting, toys, fucking the wilder the better, mostly bottom but I like to top also. ☎ 71987

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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

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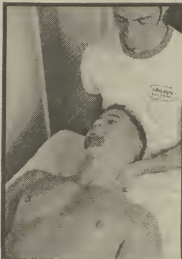
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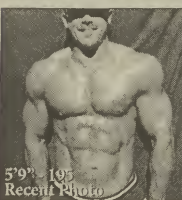


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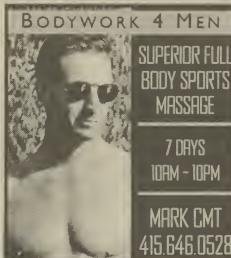
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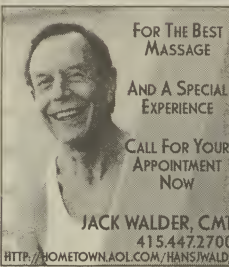
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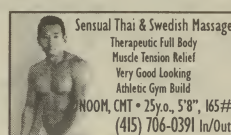
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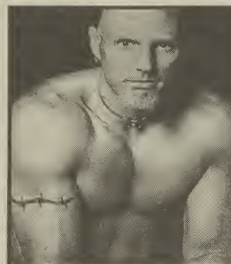
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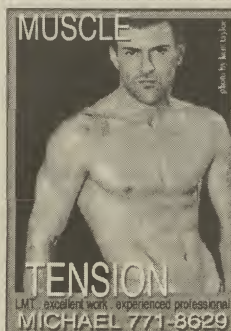


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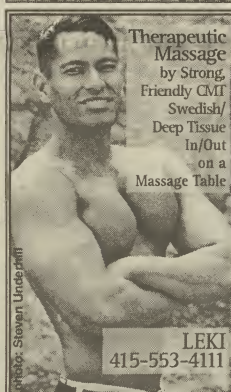


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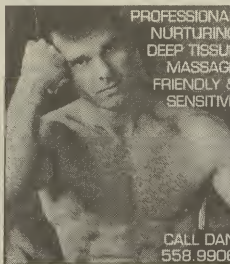
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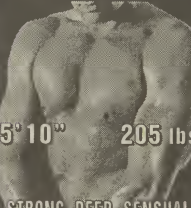
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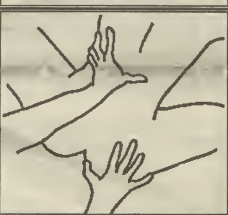
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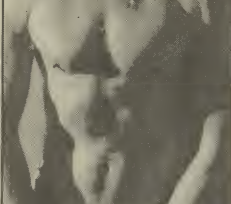
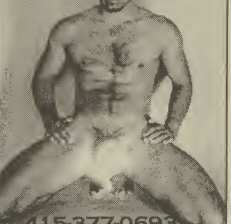
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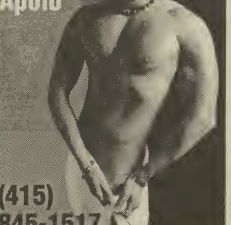
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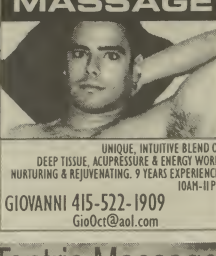
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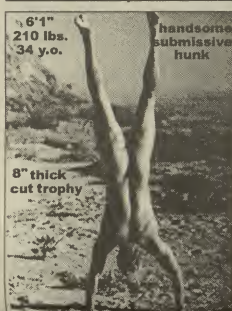
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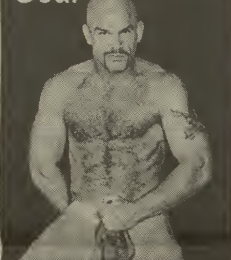
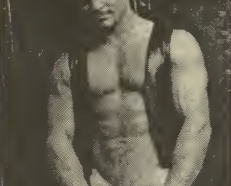
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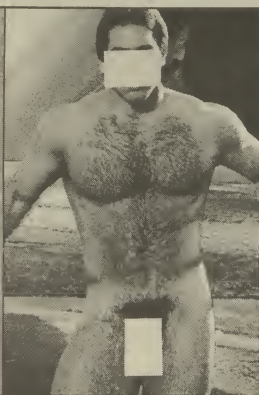
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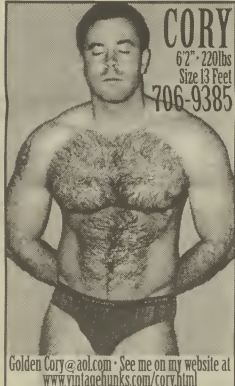
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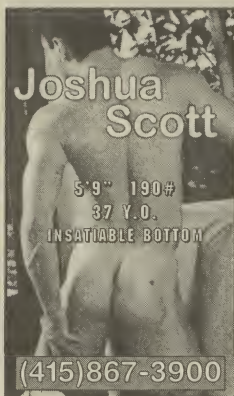
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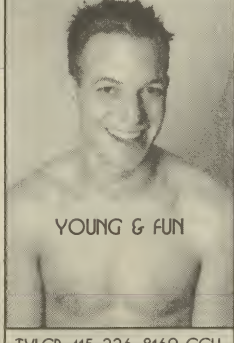
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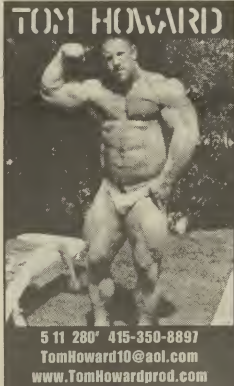
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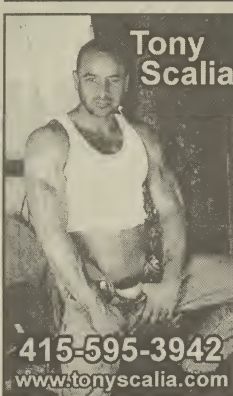
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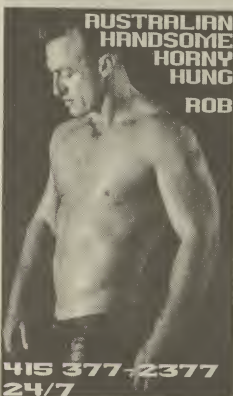
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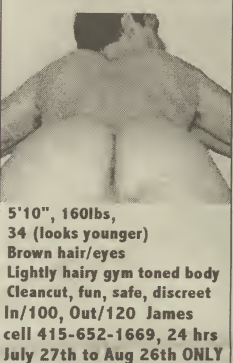
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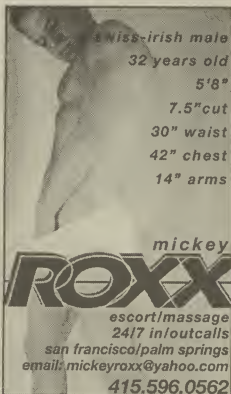
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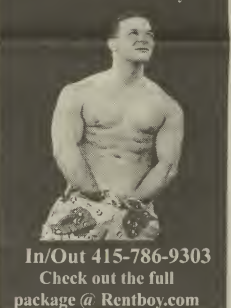
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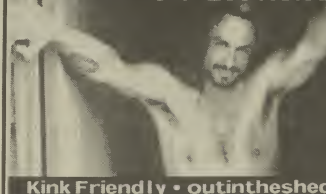
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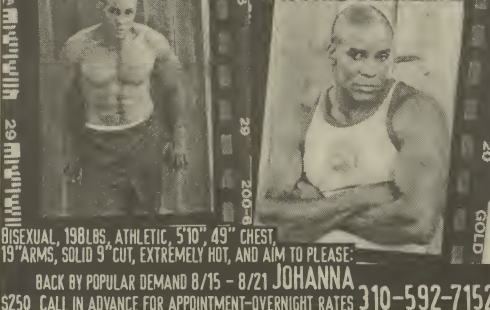
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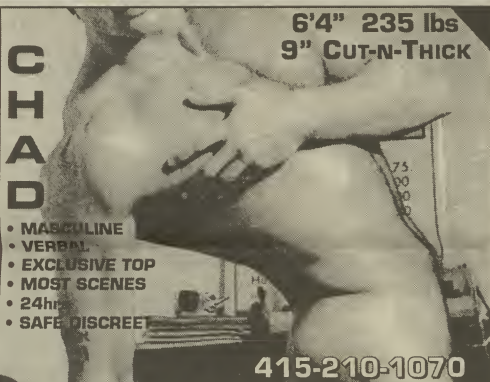
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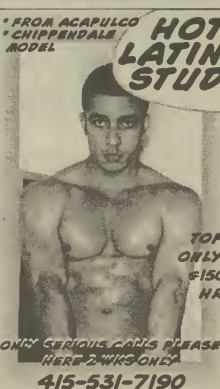
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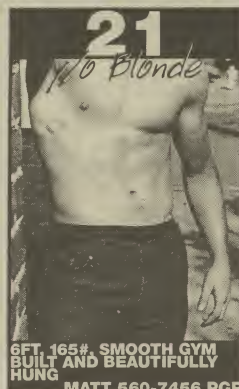
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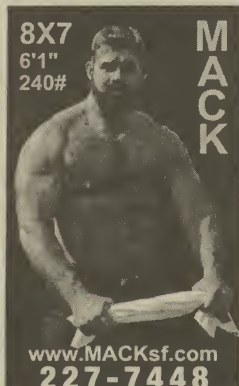
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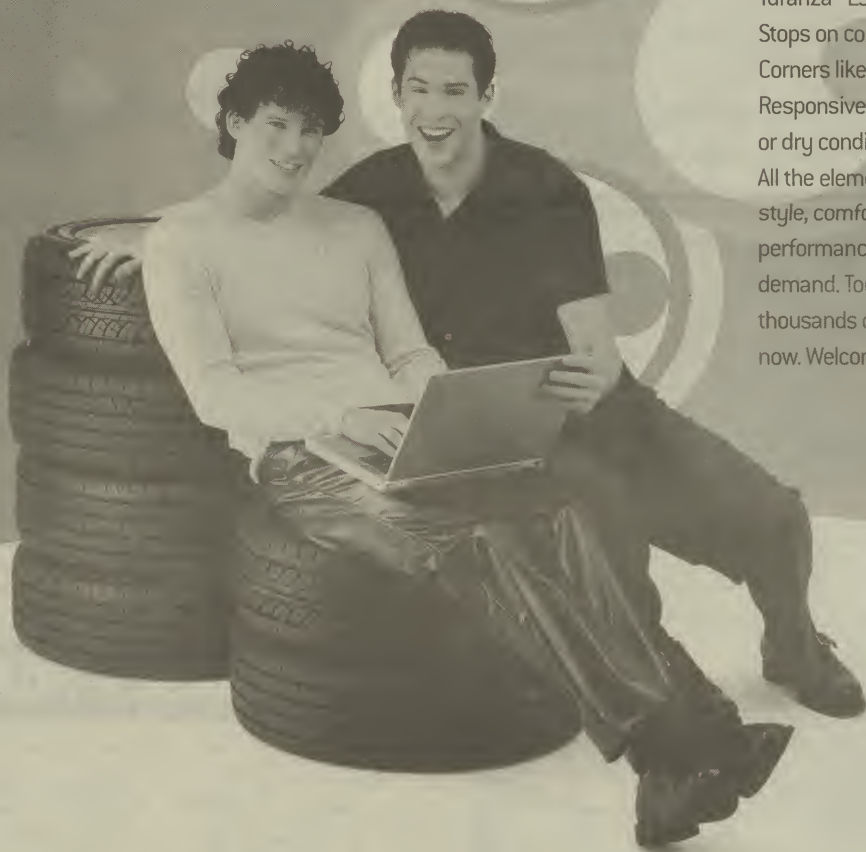
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